



**HAGEL, CHANG AIR DIFFERENCES OVER DISPUTED ISLANDS**

Page 9



**QUEEN HOSTS IRISH PRESIDENT HIGGINS ON 1ST STATE VISIT**

Page 10

**Aruba TODAY**

On Top Of The News Email:news@arubatoday.com website: www.arubatoday.com Tel:+297 582-7800 Wednesday, April 9, 2014



Secretary of State John Kerry testifies on Capitol Hill in Washington, Tuesday, April 8, 2014, before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee to discuss his budget and the status of diplomatic hot spots. Lawmakers' questions focused on Russia, Ukraine, Iran and Syria. Kerry, a former chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, threatened Russia with tougher economic sanctions if it fails to back down from its chaotic involvement in Ukraine.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

**Bipartisan critics slam Kerry on foreign policy**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Secretary of State John Kerry pushed back Tuesday against withering criticism by Republicans and some fellow Democrats, defending the Obama administration's response to an em-

boldened Russia, nuclear talks with Iran and the Syrian civil war. Defiant before the committee he once chaired, Kerry dismissed arguments that his globe-trotting attempts to broker a deal between the Israelis

and Palestinians was a futile exercise and that the U.S. has been ineffective in ending the three-year civil war in Syria. His insistence did little to deter members of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee at a

nearly three-hour hearing that was supposed to focus on the State Department's budget but instead turned into a rapid tour of world conflicts and divisions. "I think you're about to hit the trifecta," said Sen.

John McCain, a Republican whom Kerry fleetingly considered as a possible running mate on the Democratic presidential ticket in 2004.

Continued on Page 4



## Venezuela's opposition to meet with government

**FABIOLA SANCHEZ**

**Associated Press**

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)**

— Leaders of Venezuela's opposition have agreed to meet with President Nicolas Maduro's government to discuss ways to defuse the country's political crisis. Opposition leaders said they agreed to a preliminary meeting after being assured by a mission of South American diplomats that the socialist government is open to discussing a four-point agenda it's put forth as a starting point for talks. Their proposals include an amnesty for jailed government opponents, the creation of an independent truth commission to determine who is to blame for violence and the disarmament of groups loyal to Maduro.

It's not clear if the meeting will usher in formal talks

aimed at reconciliation. It's set to take place later Tuesday and may be attended by Maduro.

Still, just the opposition's willingness to sit down with the government represents a potential breakthrough that could help ease tensions on the streets especially after two months of deadly protests that have rocked Venezuela but so far pose little threat to Maduro's rule.

Ramon Guillermo Aveledo, executive secretary of the opposition Democratic Unity alliance, reflected the considerable skepticism over Maduro's motives that still ripple through the opposition by stating, "This isn't the start of the dialogue."

"It's an exploratory meeting in which we came to see, at the invitation of the South American foreign

ministers, whether the conditions for dialogue exist," he said.

Ecuadorean Foreign Minister Ricardo Patino said both sides agree that any formal dialogue should be open to the public and include a representative of the Vatican or another mutually-acceptable outside observer.

He was one of the diplomats who traveled to Caracas in a bid to bring the opposition and government together.

The government says at least 39 people have been killed and hundreds more injured and arrested since students and mostly middle-class opponents of Maduro took to the streets in early February to condemn rampant crime, galloping inflation and record shortages of basic goods after 15 years of socialist

rule.

The U.S., which has sided with the opposition in criticizing Maduro's crack-down on the protests and jailing of critics, is supporting efforts to bring about dialogue.

Testifying Tuesday before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Secretary of State John Kerry pushed back against calls by Florida Republican Marco Rubio that the U.S. impose sanctions against the Maduro government for alleged human rights abuses, saying that with negotiations a possibility, now isn't the time for taking a tougher stance.

"This is a very delicate time," Kerry said. "I don't want to do something today that provides cannon fodder for them to use against me or us." □

## Ship hunts for more 'pings' in plane search

**NICK PERRY**

**Associated Press**

**PERTH, Australia (AP)**

Search crews on Wednesday combed the Indian Ocean for distant radio signals for a third day since faint sounds that may have come from the missing Malaysian jetliner's black boxes were last detected.

The signals first heard late Saturday and early Sunday had sparked hopes of a breakthrough in the search for Flight 370, but Angus Houston, the retired Australian air chief marshal leading the search far off western Australia, said listening equipment on the Ocean Shield ship has picked up no traces of the sounds since then.

Finding the sound again is crucial to narrowing the search area so a submarine can be deployed to chart a potential debris field on the seafloor. If the autonomous sub was used now with the sparse data collected so far, covering all the potential places from which the pings might have come would take many days.

"It's literally crawling at the bottom of the ocean so it's going to take a long, long time," Houston said.

The locator beacons on the black boxes have a battery life of only about a month — and Tuesday marked exactly one month since the plane vanished. Once the beacons blink off, locating the black boxes in such deep water would be an immensely difficult, if not impossible, task. "There have been no further contacts with any transmission and we need to continue (searching) for several days right up to the point at which there's absolutely no doubt that the batteries will have expired," Houston said.

If, by that point, the U.S. Navy towed pinger locator has failed to pick up more signals, the sub will be deployed. If it maps out a debris field on the ocean floor, the sonar system on board will be replaced with a camera unit to photograph any wreckage. □

## Ukraine tries to quell pro-Moscow uprisings

**PETER LEONARD**

**Associated Press**

**DONETSK, Ukraine (AP)**

— Ukrainian authorities moved to quell pro-Moscow uprisings along the Russian border with mixed results Tuesday, retaking one occupied regional headquarters and watching protesters consolidate their hold on another.

In a third city, Luhansk, Ukraine's Security Service said separatists armed with explosives and other weapons were holding 60 people hostage inside the agency's local headquarters. Those occupying the building issued a video statement saying they want a referendum on the region's status and warning that any attempt to storm the place would be met with armed force.

In the video, posted by Ukrainian media, a masked man identified the occupiers as Ukrainian veterans of the Soviet war in Afghanistan and said that if authorities try to retake the building, "Welcome to hell, then!"

The Ukrainian government and the U.S. have accused Moscow of fomenting the unrest as a pretext for an-

other Russian military incursion like the takeover of Crimea last month. Up to 40,000 Russian troops are massed along the Ukrainian border, according

to a large population of ethnic Russians and where hostility is strong toward the government that took power in February after the ouster of Kremlin-friendly President

and Ukrainian foreign ministers next week to discuss the situation — the first four-way meeting since the crisis erupted.

In Washington, Secre-



**Communist lawmakers scuffle with right-wing Svoboda (Freedom) Party lawmakers during a parliament session of Verkhovna Rada, the Ukrainian parliament, in Kiev, Ukraine on Tuesday, April 8, 2014. Ukrainian authorities moved to quell pro-Moscow uprisings along the Russian border with mixed results Tuesday.**

(AP Photo/Vladimir Strumkovsky)

to NATO. All the cities affected by the uprisings are in Ukraine's industrial heartland in the east, which has

Viktor Yanukovich. European Union envoy Catherine Ashton said she will meet with U.S., Russian

tary of State John Kerry threatened tougher economic sanctions against Moscow. □



## Russia oil talks pose new hurdles to Iran nuke pact

BRADLEY KLAPPER

Associated Press

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The United States could impose economic sanctions if Iran and Russia move forward with a reported oil-for-goods contract, Secretary of State John Kerry said Tuesday, discussing with a Senate panel an emerging threat to talks designed to finalize a nuclear deal with Iran.

The Russian business daily Kommersant has reported Russia plans to buy 500,000 barrels of Iranian oil a day, shattering an export limit defined by an interim nuclear agreement world powers and Iran reached last year. The oil-for-goods exchange is still far from finalized, the newspaper said, but its potential challenges Western efforts to secure a comprehensive agreement.

While nuclear negotiators met in Vienna, Kerry told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee that the Obama administration has warned Iran and Russia about moving forward with the oil contract. It would violate the interim agreement reached in November in Geneva, he told the Senate panel, "and, yes, it could trigger U.S. sanctions."

However, America's top diplomat stopped short of saying a Russian-Iranian deal would automatically trigger U.S. economic penalties on Iran. The Obama administration has avoided giving a clear ultimatum because fresh U.S. sanctions on Iran would likely derail diplomatic efforts over its nuclear program.

Critics of the administration's outreach to Iran are seeking a clear marker.

In a letter to the president Monday, Congress' leading sanctions advocates said the U.S. must re-impose all penalties on Iran suspended under the interim pact if Moscow and Tehran move forward. "We urge you to put Iran on notice," said Sens. Bob Menendez and Mark Kirk, both Republicans.

Sen. Bob Corker, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee's top Republican, said the two countries were testing America's resolve. "The administration must be prepared to restore all sanctions if Iran cheats," he said.

The six-month interim agreement, which went into effect in January and expires in July, allows Iran to continue exporting a total of 1 million barrels a day of oil to six countries: China, India, Japan, South Korea, Taiwan and Turkey. Washington pledged no financial penalties against them as long as they weren't boosting purchases.

But the promise didn't apply to Russia, which wasn't an existing customer of Iran's petroleum industry. And the administration has been raising its concern with Moscow for months about any moves that would lessen the economic pressure on Iran, including in discussions between Kerry and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

Concrete progress on the oil-for-goods proposal would put President Barack Obama in a bind.

If he publicly threatens too forceful a response, he risks opening up a new rift with Russia at a time when the two countries are trying to maintain cooperation on nuclear and other matters even as they go through one of the worst crises in decades related to Russia's takeover of Ukraine's Crimean Peninsula. And unblocking suspended U.S. sanctions against Iran would likely prompt its negotiators to abandon the nuclear talks.

But if the president and his administration fail to dissuade Russia and Iran from moving forward, the interim agreement that forms the basis of America's ongoing diplomacy with Iran would be undermined. □

## Obama signs measures to help close gender gap in pay

PETER BAKER

© 2014 New York Times

**WASHINGTON** - President Barack Obama on Tuesday signed two executive measures intended to help close longstanding pay disparities between men and women as Democrats seek to capitalize on their gender-gap advantage at the ballot box in a midterm election year.

Obama, standing in front

the past, reiterated that it was "an embarrassment" that women on average earn 77 cents for every dollar men make. But he made no mention of a recent study that found that women in his own White House make 88 cents for every dollar men do. Aides have said that women earn the same salary as men of the same rank but that there are more women in

The Senate is set to vote on the Paycheck Fairness Act on Wednesday, and a memo distributed by the Republican National Committee and two other party committees ahead of the vote noted that it was already illegal to discriminate on the basis of gender. It said Democrats "always seem to wait for an election year to push another empty promise."



**President Barack Obama signs an order banning federal contractors from retaliating against workers who discuss their pay, at the White House in Washington, April 8, 2014. At left is Lilly Ledbetter, who introduced the President and was the namesake of the Fair Pay Act of 2009, which Obama described as an important first step while asking Congress to do more on gender pay equality. (Doug Mills/The New York Times)**

of a platform of women in a picture-ready ceremony in the East Room of the White House, said his actions would make it easier for women to learn whether they had been cheated by employers. He called on Congress to pass legislation that would take more significant steps.

"America deserves equal pay for equal work," he said. Noting that it was "Equal Pay Day," he said a woman who worked in 2013 had to work this far into 2014 to catch up to what a man earned by the end of last year.

"That's not fair," Obama said. "That's like adding another 6 miles to a marathon." He added: "America should be a level playing field, a fair race for everybody."

The president, as he has in

lower-paying jobs - an explanation similar to that often given by private-sector employers.

Some critics have said both of those statistics are misleading because they are averages of all men and women in all jobs, rather than apples-to-apples comparisons of men and women in equivalent jobs with equivalent experience. Once such factors are taken into account, they say, the gap is smaller. "We all support equal pay for equal work and know there's a problem that must be addressed," said Kirsten Kukowski, national press secretary for the Republican National Committee. "But many are questioning the Democrats' motives as they continue their dishonesty about the issue and their own gender gap."

The committees released statistics showing pay gaps in the office staffs of several Democrats up for reelection this year, including Sens. Mark Begich of Alaska, Mark R. Warner of Virginia, Mary L. Landrieu of Louisiana and Kay Hagan of North Carolina.

Obama responded to the critics. "Some commentators are out there saying that the pay gap doesn't even exist," he said. "They say it's a myth. But it's not a myth. It's math."

The president lambasted Republicans for opposing "any efforts to even the playing field for working families." He added: "I don't know why you would resist the idea that women should be paid the same as men and then deny that that's not always happening out there." □





桃花閣  
**BLOSSOMS**  
Japanese and Chinese Restaurant

**Lunch & Dinner**

Located in the lower lobby of the hotel.  
Please use side entrance in parking lot.

J.E. Irausquin Boulevard. 77, (ex-Westin Hotel) **Tel: 586-3388.**



Moderator John Avlon, left to right, Editor-in-Chief of The Daily Beast, and attorneys David Boies, left, and Theodore B. Olson discuss the issue of gay marriage at the Civil Rights Summit at the LBJ Presidential Library on Tuesday April 8, 2014 in Austin, Texas. The summit opens Tuesday and marks the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which outlawed discrimination in public places based on race, ethnicity, religion or gender.

(AP Photo/Jay Janner, pool)

## Civil rights summit opens in Texas

**PAUL J. WEBER**  
**Associated Press**

**AUSTIN, Texas (AP)** — A civil rights summit headlined by four of the five living U.S. presidents began Tuesday in Texas with a top Republican and Democrat expressing common ground on immigration reform and speakers comparing toppled gay marriage bans to racial equality victories in the 1960s.

Former President Jimmy Carter was the first president scheduled to speak later Tuesday at the Lyndon B. Johnson Presidential Library in Austin, which is holding the three-day summit to mark the 50th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act.

Johnson signed the law that banned widespread discrimination against racial and ethnic minorities and against women. While

his presidency is often viewed in the dark shadow of the Vietnam War, the library believes his legacy deserves as much attention for the Texan's victories on civil rights.

The summit began with former Republican Mississippi Gov. Haley Barbour and San Antonio Mayor Julian Castro, a fast-rising Democrat and top surrogate of President Barack Obama, urging Congress to tackle immigration reform before the end of the year.

"The stupidest thing we can do economically is make them leave. We don't have anybody to replace them," said Barbour, referring to the estimated 11 million immigrants who are in the country without legal documentation. "So the impracticality of sending them home should be obvious to everyone."

Their discussion was interrupted by a woman in the crowd shouting she was a so-called DREAMer — a young person who immigrated illegally into the United States — and calling on Castro to urge Obama to stop deportations of families. No one removed the woman, who began shouting again when the panel was over. Castro, the keynote speaker at the 2012 Democratic National Convention, did not respond to the woman but later said he was troubled by families who are deported after minor crimes such as traffic stops. "My hope is that his administration will go about it in a different way. I'm not comfortable with the number of deportations," Castro said. President Obama is scheduled to give the keynote address Thursday. □

## Bipartisan critics slam Kerry on foreign policy

Continued on Page 4

Pointing to negotiations on Syria, the Middle East and Iran, McCain said that on the major issues, "this administration is failing very badly."

Republicans seized on President Vladimir Putin's bold moves in Ukraine and Russia's annexation of the Crimea peninsula last month as further signs of an Obama administration policy "spinning out of control" as Sen. Jim Risch, a Republican, described it. McCain reminded Kerry that President Theodore Roosevelt had adopted the tenet to speak softly and carry a big stick.

"What you're doing is talking strongly and carrying a very small stick; in fact, a twig," McCain said.

Kerry rejected McCain's "premature judgment about the failure of everything," and reminded his fellow Vietnam veteran that the peace talks to end that war took years with months debating the shape of the negotiating table. Diplomacy is a far better option than the alternative of war, the secretary said. "Your friend, Teddy Roosevelt, also said that the credit belongs to the people who are in the arena who are trying to get things done, and we're trying to get something done," Kerry told McCain. Kerry's successor at the committee helm, Sen. Bob Menendez, a Democrat, pressed him about possible concessions by the West in the nuclear talks involving Iran and six world powers. One of the leading

proponents of sanctions on Iran, Menendez sought assurances that the U.S. would impose economic sanctions if Iran and Russia move forward with a reported oil-for-goods contract.

On the question of the fate of a heavy water plutonium reactor in Iran, Menendez expressed exasperation.

"Originally we were told that's going to be dismantled. Now we are told we are going to find a different purpose for it. It continues to morph into different areas," he said. Sen. Ben Cardin, a Democrat, pressed Kerry on the plan to ensure that those responsible for the death of tens of thousands in Syria are held accountable. He also questioned Kerry about the status of Israeli-Palestinian talks, prompting Kerry to blame both sides but single out Israel for announcing 700 new settlement units in East Jerusalem.

"Poof, that was sort of the moment," Kerry said of the current deadlock. Kerry threatened Russia with tougher economic sanctions if it fails to back down from its chaotic involvement in Ukraine.

The secretary described the recent actions by pro-Russia demonstrators in seizing regional offices in Ukraine as a possible pretext for further Russia military aggression.

"What we see from Russia is an illegal and illegitimate effort to destabilize a sovereign state and create a contrived crisis with paid operatives across an international boundary," Kerry said. □



## Settlement aims to end exploitation of disabled workers



Steven Porcelli, second from left, who worked for decades at a sheltered workshop, during a news conference at the Department of Justice in Providence, R.I., April 8, 2014. The Justice Department on Tuesday announced an agreement with the State of Rhode Island to free people with developmental disabilities from a decades-old system that kept them unjustly segregated in sheltered workshops and adult day programs, removed from the competitive workplace and the broader community.

(Gretchen Ertl/The New York Times)

DAN BARRY

© 2014 New York Times

The Justice Department announced a "landmark" agreement with the state of Rhode Island Tuesday to free people with developmental disabilities from a decades-old system that kept them unjustly segregated in sheltered workshops and adult day programs, removed from the competitive workplace and the broader community. The settlement agreement, which addresses the civil rights of about 3,250 Rhode Island residents, also provides a road map to compliance for the 49 other states, federal officials said. They estimated that across the country, 450,000 people with intellectual and developmental disabilities while away their days in segregated sheltered workshops and day programs.

The court-approved agreement, known as a consent decree, was announced in the state capital of Providence at a news conference attended by officials from the Justice Depart-

ment and the state, including Gov. Lincoln Chafee, as well as by people with developmental disabilities and aspirations who spent years stuck in sheltered workshops that financially exploited them.

There was, for example, Steven Porcelli, 50, of North Providence. In a telephone interview before Tuesday's announcement, he recalled graduating from high school, working briefly at a hardware store, and then being sent to a sheltered workshop run by a nonprofit company called Training Thru Placement. For about \$2 an hour, Porcelli assembled jewelry, packed medical supplies into boxes, grated cheese and stuffed peppers for an Italian food company.

"I was there for 30 years," Porcelli added. "I was doing piecework most of the time, which I didn't like too much." Jocelyn Samuels, the acting assistant attorney general for the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division, cited Porcelli's case, among others, in unveiling what she called the

"landmark settlement" to address the "unnecessary segregation" of sheltered

workshops and day facilities.

"We cannot wait another day to change," Samuels said. "And we won't."

Under the agreement, Rhode Island - which federal officials praised for recognizing and embracing the need for reform - has 10 years to help state residents with developmental disabilities to obtain typical jobs in the community that pay at least the minimum wage; prepare high-school-age students with developmental disabilities for competitive jobs in the community through internships and mentoring programs; and redirect the "significant" public funds that are used to support segregated settings toward encouraging services in integrated settings. □

Enjoy our much celebrated  
**3-Course Dinner Special!**

<b>Appetizer</b>	• Fish Soup • Onion Soup • Conch Fritters • Escargot • Salad
<b>Entrée</b>	• Fresh Catch of the Day prepared by our local chef just the way you like it. • Jumbo Shrimp from our local waters, breaded served with potato or rice or with garlic tossed over linguine. • Filet Mignon* 8 oz. US Tenderloin • Grilled Boneless Chicken Breast
<b>Dessert</b>	• Chocolate or Banana Cake • Ice Cream • Coffee / Tea

This special cannot be used with any other promotions, vouchers or certificates.

**3-course dinner \$25.95 per person**



Driftwood Restaurant  
Authentic Aruban Seafood

**25th ANNIVERSARY**

Open daily from 5:00pm - 10:30pm (closed on Sundays)  
For reservations call: 583-2515 - Klipstraat 12, Downtown.  
www.driftwoodaruba.com • driftwood@setarnet.aw

Sitters Aruba  
Dedicated sitters, committed to care

Our rates: \$20 p/hour (minimum of 3 hours)  
Book at least 4 hours in advance

**CALL NOW & GET 10% DISCOUNT**  
Mention this ad upon booking

+297 7347171  
or email info@sittersaruba.com  
Offers ends March 31st 2014  
www.sittersaruba.com

THE SITTING COMPANY TRUSTED BY HIGH & LOW RISE HOTELS

## ARUBA OSTRICH FARM



- Get up close and personal with the largest bird in the world.
- Family fun, interactive and educational.
- Open from 9'am - 4'pm

**20% OFF TOUR PRICE**

No reservations needed for **SMALL GROUPS**

**Tel: 585-9630**



on the spot! You pick the Catch - Our Chef will grill it, just the way you like it!

**SUNDAYS FRESH FISH BBQ BUFFET**

Fish as fresh as it gets! from the sea...on your plate! **\$30 pp** Kids half price

**Hadicurari** Seafood with a view  
Restaurant at the Fisherman's Pier - Aruba

**Breakfast** 8am - 11am  
**Lunch** 11am - 5pm  
**Dinner** 5pm - 11pm

Located between Marriott's Surf Club and MooMba beach...  
Right on the beach! Call (+297) 586 2288  
[www.hadicurari.com](http://www.hadicurari.com)

ARUBA WINE & DINE

## Man cleared of NYC murder after 25 years in prison

**JENNIFER PELTZ**  
**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — A man who spent almost a quarter-century behind bars for murder was freed in New York City on Tuesday and cleared of a killing that

happened when he was far away on a Disney World vacation. Jonathan Fleming, 51, left a Brooklyn court in tears as a free man, hugging his lawyers as relatives cheered, "Thank you, God!" after a judge

dismissed the case. A key eyewitness had recanted, newly found witnesses implicated someone else and prosecutors' review of their own files turned up documents supporting Fleming's alibi.

"After 25 years, come hug your mother," Patricia Fleming said, and her only child did.

"I feel wonderful," he said afterward. "I've always had faith. I knew that this day would come someday." The exoneration, first reported by the New York Daily News, comes amid scrutiny of Brooklyn prosecutors' process for reviewing questionable convictions — scrutiny that comes partly from the new district attorney, Kenneth Thompson. He said in a statement that after a months-long review, he decided to drop the case against Fleming because of "key alibi facts that place Fleming in Florida at the time of the murder." From the start, Fleming told authorities he had been in Orlando when a friend, Darryl "Black" Rush, was shot to death in Brooklyn early on Aug. 15, 1989. Authorities suggested the shooting was motivated by a dispute over money.

Fleming had plane tickets, videos and postcards from

his trip, said his lawyers, Anthony Mayol and Taylor Koss. But prosecutors at the time suggested he could have made a quick round-trip plane jaunt to be in New York, and a woman testified that she had seen him shoot Rush.

He was sentenced to 25 years to life in prison and was due to have his first parole hearing soon.

The eyewitness recanted her testimony soon after Fleming's 1990 conviction, saying she had lied so police would cut her loose for an unrelated arrest, but Fleming lost his appeals.

The defense asked the prosecutor's office to review the case last year.

Defense investigators found previously untapped witnesses who implicated someone else as the gunman, the attorneys said, declining to give the witnesses' or potential suspect's names before prosecutors look into them. The prosecutor's office declined to comment on its investigative plans. □



Jonathan Fleming, far right, listens while standing with his lawyers Anthony Mayol, second from right, and Taylor Koss, left, who argues for his freedom in Brooklyn's Supreme court, Tuesday April 8, 2014 in New York. Fleming, who spent almost a quarter-century behind bars for murder, was cleared of a killing that happened when he was 1,100 miles away on a Disney World vacation in 1989.

(AP Photo/Bebeto Matthews)

## Lawmaker Yee pleads not guilty to federal charges

**PAUL ELIAS**  
**Associated Press**

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Suspended state Sen. Leland Yee on Tuesday pleaded not guilty to bribery and gun charges two weeks after he was arrested as part of an elaborate FBI sting involving undercover agents investigating political corruption and an alleged organized crime syndicate based in San Francisco's Chinatown. Yee entered his pleas in federal court to one count of conspiracy to traffic in firearms without a license and illegally import firearms;

one count of conspiring to defraud citizens of honest services; and six counts of engaging in a scheme to defraud citizens of honest services.

The San Francisco Democrat is accused of conspiring to connect an undercover FBI agent with a Philippine arms dealer in exchange for campaign contributions, and of trading political influence for cash.

Yee, who is free on \$500,000 bond, has been suspended from the Legislature. Also on Tuesday, Yee and his wife, Maxine, signed over

their San Francisco home as collateral for the bond. The Yees and their attorney Jim Lassart declined to comment outside court.

His campaign consultant, Keith Jackson, also pleaded not guilty Tuesday to murder-for-hire, corruption, conspiracy and firearms trafficking charges. Jackson is free on \$250,000 bond. Yee, Jackson and 18 others were formally indicted last week after their arrests March 26. A total of 29 people have been charged in the organized crime investigation. Several have been arrested outside

California and will have to appear in court in San Francisco at some point.

Yee, Jackson and Raymond "Shrimp Boy" Chow were ordered back to court Friday for their first appearance before U.S. District Judge Charles Breyer, who will preside over the case through trial. Breyer is the brother of U.S. Supreme Court Justice Stephen Breyer. Jackson is accused of having connections to a Chinatown organization that the FBI says was a front for a notorious crime syndicate. Authorities say Jackson served as a middleman

between Yee and the syndicate and helped funnel cash to the politician in exchange for political influence.

At the time Jackson was working for Yee, he also was serving as a consultant to the Chinatown organization Ghee Kung Tong, the FBI claims. The tong held itself out as a civic booster and community helper.

However, the FBI alleges it was a front for the headquarters of a notorious organized crime syndicate led by Chow, who has long been on the federal law enforcement's radar. □



**Free**  
Dessert per couple!

**Sweet Peppers**  
Restaurant & Bar  
Breakfast - Lunch - Dinner

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	SUNDAY
ITALIAN NIGHT	ALL YOU CAN EAT GROUPER	KARAOKE DANCE PARTY	ALL YOU CAN EAT BBQ RIBS

**BREAKFAST** from 7:30 am till 11:00 am  
**LUNCH** from 11:00 am till 5:00 pm  
**DINNER** from 5:00 pm till 10:00 pm

**DAILY HAPPY HOURS**  
12:00 am / 1:00 pm | 4:00 pm / 6:00 pm | 9:00 pm / 10:00 pm

Ask for our **2x1** all day special

Caribbean Palm Village Resort For reservations call 5860740

## U.S. employers advertised more jobs in February

JOSH BOAK

AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. employers posted more job openings in February, a sign that hiring will likely improve in the months ahead.

The Labor Department said Tuesday that employers advertised 4.2 million job openings, up 7.7 percent from January. That's the highest number of postings since January 2008, when the Great Recession was just beginning and the economy had yet to suffer the full shock of the downturn. There are roughly 2.5 unemployed Americans for each open job, the report shows. That average has slowly been approaching the 2 to 1 ratio is typical of healthier economies, after peaking at 6.7 unemployed people for each available job in July 2009, just after the recession ended.

Hiring has accelerated over the past two months after a winter slowdown. After factoring in job losses, employers added 192,000 jobs in March and 197,000 in February, the government said last Friday.

That was significantly higher than in December and January, when snowstorms reduced job growth. The unemployment rate has stayed at 6.7 percent for the past two months.

Tuesday's government report, known as the Job Openings and Labor Turnover survey, offers a more complete picture of the job market. □

## US Financial Front:

# GM to invest \$449M in 2 Detroit factories

TOM KRISHER

AP Auto Writer

**DETROIT (AP)** — General Motors plans to invest \$449 million in two Detroit-area factories to build the next-generation Chevrolet Volt hybrid electric car and two unspecified new vehicles. The company said the investment eventually will bring a second shift at the Detroit assembly plant that makes the Volt and other cars. But it wouldn't say how many jobs would be added or when the people would be hired. The plant now employs about 1,600 on a single shift.

GM says it will invest \$384 million at the assembly plant and another \$65 million in a battery pack plant in nearby Brownstown Township.

The company also didn't release any details on the next generation Volt. The current version can go about 38 miles on battery power before a small gasoline generator kicks in.

The assembly plant, which straddles the border of Detroit and the enclave of Hamtramck, also makes the Opel Ampera, a version of the Volt sold in Europe and other areas, and the Cadillac ELR, a luxury version of the Volt. The same assembly line also makes the Chevrolet Impala and Malibu sedans. Spokesman Dave Darovitz said the company also confirmed that two future products would go to the plant, but he would not identify them.

One is likely to be a new

large rear-wheel-drive Cadillac now code-named the Omega.

Darovitz said the battery plant, which now employs

eration of Volt could be considered questionable spending since its sales have been less than stellar. Through March, GM has

By comparison, GM sold more than 248,000 Chevrolet Cruze compact cars last year, which cost far less than the Volt and are pow-



Gov. Rick Snyder speaks at the Flint Assembly Plant in Flint, Mich. General Motors plans to invest \$449 million in two Detroit-area factories to build the next-generation Chevrolet Volt hybrid electric car and two unspecified new vehicles.

(AP Photo/The Flint Journal, Jake May)

about 100 people, also will see additional hiring. But he said the number of new jobs at both plants will be revealed at a later date.

GM says that since 2009 it has announced more than \$5.4 billion worth of investments in its U.S. facilities, including more than \$2.8 billion in Michigan.

Investing in the next gen-

ered by either gasoline or diesel engines. Darovitz said GM is committed to the advanced technology in the Volt and will continue to invest in it.

GM wouldn't say when the next generation of Volt will be in showrooms, but the company has hinted that it will cost less and may have higher battery range. □



## red sail sports Dinner Sail

Sail along Aruba's scenic coastline and enjoy the sunset followed by a Caribbean buffet catered by award-winning chefs.

Wednesday from 5:30 to 8:30 pm

Book now! [www.redsailaruba.com](http://www.redsailaruba.com) or by phone: (+297) 586-1603



# US bacon prices rise after virus kills baby pigs

**M.L. JOHNSON**  
**Associated Press**

**MILWAUKEE (AP)** — A virus never before seen in the U.S. has killed millions of baby pigs in less than a year, and with little known about how it spreads or how to stop it, it's threatening pork production and pushing up prices by 10 percent or more. Estimates vary, but one economist believes case data indicate more than 6 million piglets in 27 states have died since porcine epidemic diarrhea showed up in the U.S. last May. A more conservative estimate from the U.S. Department of Agriculture shows the nation's pig herd has shrunk at least 3 percent to about 63 million pigs since the disease appeared.

Scientists think the virus, which does not infect humans or other animals, came from China, but they don't know how it got into the country.

The federal government is looking into how such viruses might spread, while the pork industry, wary of future outbreaks, has committed \$1.7 million to research the disease.

The U.S. is both a top producer and exporter of pork, but production could decline about 7 percent this year compared to last — the biggest drop in more than 30 years, according to a recent report from Rabobank, which focuses on the food, beverage and agribusiness industries.

Already, prices have shot up: A pound of bacon av-



**Dr. Craig Rowles stands with hogs in one of his Carroll, Iowa hog buildings. The farmer and long-time veterinarian did all he could to prevent porcine epidemic diarrhea from spreading to his farm, but despite his best efforts the deadly diarrhea attacked in November 2013, killing 13,000 animals in a matter of weeks. PED, a virus never before seen in the U.S. has killed millions of pigs in less than a year, and with little known about how it spreads or how to stop it, it's threatening pork production and pushing up prices by 10 percent or more.**

(AP Photo/Charlie Neibergall, File)

## WACKY WAHOOS

PALM BEACH #33-A [WWW.WACKYWAHOOS.COM](http://WWW.WACKYWAHOOS.COM)

**STEAK, SEAFOOD, B.B.Q. & FUN!**

Ex-Hadicurari BBQ & Grill with the same owner's. We do our own daily fishing so we serve the freshest seafood on the Island.

**Very reasonable price, exciting menu and NO SERVICE CHARGE**

**Dinner from 5:30 - 10:00**

**Monday - Saturday**



**FRESH CATCH & SEAFOOD**

We are located close to the High-rise hotel's at walking distance.

RESERVATION SUGGESTED

**TEL: 586-7333**



eraged \$5.46 in February, 13 percent more than a year ago, according to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Ham and chops have gone up too, although not as much.

Farmer and longtime veterinarian Craig Rowles did all he could to prevent PED from spreading to his farm in Iowa, the top U.S. pork producer and the state hardest hit by the disease. He trained workers to spot symptoms, had them shower and change clothing before entering barns and limited deliveries and visitors.

Despite his best efforts, the deadly diarrhea attacked in November, killing 13,000 animals in a matter of weeks, most of them less than 2 weeks old. The farm produces about 150,000 pigs each year.

Diarrhea affects pigs like people: Symptoms that are

uncomfortable in adults become life-threatening in newborns that dehydrate quickly.

The best chance at saving young pigs is to wean them and then pump them with clear fluids that hydrate them without taxing their intestines. But nothing could be done for the youngest ones except euthanasia.

"It's very difficult for the people who are working the barns at that point," Rowles said. "... No one wants to go to work today and think about making the decision of baby pigs that need to be humanely euthanized because they can't get up anymore. Those are very hard days." Scientists believe PED came from China, which has seen repeated outbreaks since the 1980s and severe strains emerging in recent years. Outbreaks previously hit Europe as well.

PED thrives in cold weather,

so the death toll in the U.S. has soared since December.

The first reports came from the Midwest, and the states most affected are those with the largest share of America's pigs: Iowa, Minnesota, North Carolina and Illinois. The disease also has spread to Canada and Mexico.

Some states now require a veterinarian to certify that pigs coming in are virus-free, and China has asked the U.S. Department of Agriculture to similarly vouch for animals shipped overseas.

Companies are racing to develop a vaccine, but the federal government has yet to approve one. While the mass deaths have been a blow for farmers, the financial impact to them may be limited because pork prices are rising to make up for the loss of animals. □



# Hagel, Chang air differences over disputed islands

**LOLITA C. BALDOR**

**Associated Press**

**BEIJING (AP)** — In a face-off between the defense chiefs of China and the U.S., Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel told his Chinese counterpart on Tuesday that his country does not have the right to unilaterally establish an air defense zone over disputed islands with no consultation.

And he said America will protect Japan, the Philippines and other allies locked in disputes with China, as laid out in U.S. treaty obligations.

Chinese Defense Minister Chang Wanquan said his country will not take the initiative to stir up troubles with Japan, but warned that Beijing is ready to use its military if needed to safeguard its territory. And he said the U.S. must "stay vigilant" against Japan's actions and "not be permissive and supportive" of Tokyo.

Washington has criticized Beijing's recent declaration of an air defense zone over a large swath of the East China Sea, including disputed remote islands controlled by Japan but also claimed by China. Hagel was in Japan earlier this week, reassuring its leaders of ongoing U.S. support.

In their remarks Tuesday, Hagel and Chang largely aired their countries' well-known positions about the territorial disputes, al-

though it was the first time it was done in China, shoulder-to-shoulder, after nearly two hours of meetings.

"Every nation has a right to establish an air defense zone, but not a right to

ready to resolve the disputes diplomatically. But he made it clear that China is always ready to respond militarily to threats.

Chang also complained that the Philippines illegally

tions over Beijing's military buildup, persistent cyberattacks by both sides, and the aggressive Chinese territorial claims.

Washington says it takes no side on the sovereignty

ington and Beijing have a shared interest "in achieving a verifiable, irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula."

North Korea has been escalating its rhetoric lately, threatening additional missile and nuclear tests and conducting a series of ballistic missile launches.

Later Tuesday, at the People's Liberation Army's National Defense University, Hagel gave a speech to about 120 colonels and other staff officers, and was more direct, challenging China to play a more constructive role in North Korea.

Continuing to support the Pyongyang regime, he said, "will only hurt China's international standing" and its position in the region.

In the defense university speech, Hagel also pointed to cybersecurity as an area where the U.S. wants the Chinese to be more transparent.

As proof that the U.S. has tried to be more open, he revealed publicly for the first time that the Pentagon gave Chinese government officials a briefing on the doctrine that governs the use of the military's cyber capabilities. And he urged China to do the same.

Chang, when asked about the issue, said the People's Liberation Army abides by the law in its cyber operations and will not pose a threat to others. □



**Defense Secretary Chuck Hagel and Chinese Minister of Defense Chang Wanquan gesture to members of the media prior to their meeting at the Chinese Defense Ministry headquarters in Beijing, Tuesday, April 8, 2014. The defense chiefs of China and the US faced off Tuesday over Beijing's escalating territorial disputes in the region, with Hagel telling his Chinese counterparts they do not have the right to unilaterally establish an air defense zone over disputed islands, with no consultation.**

(AP Photo/Alex Wong, Pool)

do it unilaterally with no collaboration, no consultation. That adds to tensions, misunderstandings, and could eventually add to, and eventually get to, dangerous conflict," said Hagel, pointing his finger toward television cameras and photographers at the back of the room, as shutters clicked.

Chang said China stands

occupies part of China's islands and reefs in the South China Sea.

He told Hagel, "We will make no compromise, no concession, no trading, not even a tiny ... violation is allowed."

On a broader scale, the meeting focused on how the U.S. and China can build stronger ties, in the wake of years of frosty rela-

issue of the islands but will defend Japan and the Philippines. But it also has refused to recognize the air defense zone or follow China's demands that its aircraft file flight plans with Beijing's Defense Ministry and heed Chinese instructions.

The Pentagon chief also pressed China on North Korea, saying that Wash-



## EVERYONE'S A WINNER!

IT'S FREE! • EVERY WEDNESDAY • AT 7:00PM

### OVER \$1,500 IN FREE SLOT PLAY & CASH PRIZES!

Join us for our "No Losers" Slot Tournament, when everyone who plays is guaranteed **\$10 IN FREE SLOT PLAY.**

Plus, the top 5 winners will receive great cash and free play prizes!

See the Trop Advantage® Club for more information. You must be at least 18 years of age to participate. Management reserves all rights. Play responsibly [www.gambleranonymous.org](http://www.gambleranonymous.org).

TROPICANA ENTERTAINMENT CASINOS | TROPICANACASINOS.COM





## Queen hosts Irish president on 1st state visit

JILL LAWLESS  
S. POGATCHNIK  
Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — Amid regal pomp at Queen Elizabeth II's Windsor Castle home, the Irish president and the British monarch have begun Ireland's first state visit to Britain with expressions of mutual affection and respect — and a shared determination to consign national hatreds to a sorrow-tinged past. President Michael D. Higgins, Ireland's elfin head of

longtime adversaries since the 1990s, when Irish Republican Army car bombs were still detonating in London.

It comes three years after the queen, defying threats from IRA splinter groups still seeking to wreck the peace, made her own inaugural visit to the Republic of Ireland, where a British monarch last visited in 1911, when all of Ireland was still part of the United Kingdom.

As she toasted the health

as the monarch parachuted live into the stadium.

"It took someone of Irish descent, Danny Boyle, to get me to jump from a helicopter," she said to laughter, referring to the show's director. More significantly, the queen criticized how Irish immigrants to Britain used to experience "discrimination and a lack of appreciation." She said a peaceful future would require Britain and Ireland to be "respectful of each other's nationhood, sovereign-



**Sabina Higgins, left, wife of the Irish President, Queen Elizabeth II, the President of Ireland, Michael D Higgins, 2nd right, and Prince Philip leave after inspecting the guard at Windsor Castle, during the first state visit to the UK by an Irish President, Tuesday April 8, 2014. Higgins' extended four-day trip will include an address to the Houses of Parliament and a focus on the contribution Irish emigrants have made to UK life. The theme of the state visit will be on the two countries' shared histories.**

(AP Photo/Steve Parsons)

state, was guest of honor at a royal banquet that brought together former enemies in Northern Ireland and leading politicians and celebrities of Britain and Ireland, including Judi Dench and Daniel Day-Lewis. Gathered together on one massive 160-seat table, they heard the queen and Higgins pledge to lead their nations into a new era of friendship.

Higgins' trip — on his country's first state visit to Britain since Ireland won independence nearly a century ago — underscores how much the success of Northern Ireland peacemaking has transformed wider relations between the two

of the Irish nation, Elizabeth said she had loved her Irish visit and found it "even more pleasing since then that we, the Irish and British, are becoming good and dependable neighbors and better friends, finally shedding our inhibitions about seeing the best in each other."

The queen managed a rare joke as she lauded the role of Irish immigrants in Britain's public, academic and cultural life. She recalled her own surprise role in the Opening Ceremony of the 2012 London Olympics, when she performed in a film alongside James Bond star Daniel Craig — before a stuntman dressed

ty and traditions, cooperating to our mutual benefit, at ease in each other's company. After so much checkered history, the regrettable pain of which is still felt by many of us, this goal is now within reach."

She signaled her intention to return to Ireland for the 100th anniversary commemorations of its Easter Rising, a short-lived 1916 Dublin rebellion that inspired Ireland's later war of independence.

Even a few years ago, the idea of British royals attending celebrations of one of the most anti-British events in Irish history would have seemed farcical, if not dangerous. Not now. □

## Oscar Pistorius describes 'the moment everything changed'

SARAH LYALL  
© 2014 New York Times

**PRETORIA, South Africa** - It was bold, splashy and theatrical, the kind of flourish more often seen in courtroom dramas than in real-life murder trials. In the middle of his emotional and harrowing testimony Tuesday, Paralympic sprinter Oscar Pistorius stood up in full view of the packed courtroom, removed his prosthetic legs, and demonstrated in a few ungainly steps how very vulnerable and exposed he can be with only his stumps to depend on.

The moment came on a grueling day in which a shaky, tearful Pistorius for the first time gave a full account of what he says happened the night that he shot and killed his girlfriend, Reeva Steenkamp. And it went toward bolstering the case the defense is trying to make: that Pistorius, the world's most celebrated disabled athlete, is at the same time an anxious and physically fragile man who sprayed bullets through the door of his bathroom in a panic because he believed someone had broken into his house.

"I was overcome with fear," he said, speaking of the moment he says he heard noises coming from outside his bedroom in the early hours of Feb. 14, 2013. "I started screaming and shouting for the burglars to get out of my house. I shouted for Reeva to get on the floor. I shouted for her to phone the police."

The trial has dominated the news here in South Africa. Born without fibulae, bones that connect the knee to the ankle, Pistorius had his lower legs amputated when he was a baby, but went on to become a bona fide South African hero. He was a charming, inspirational champion sprinter who scooped up medals in able-bodied as well as disabled competitions. He carried the flag for South Africa at the closing ceremony in the London 2012 Olympics.

In addition to the attention surrounding a trial involving a high-profile star athlete, the case has raised other issues: about South Africa's gun culture; about the country's laws covering self-defense; about the fear of violent crime many people here say they always carry with them; and about how women are treated by handsome and seemingly entitled celebrities like Pistorius.

By Pistorius' account, Feb. 13, 2013, had been a routine evening in the fledgling romance between him and Steenkamp, 29, a law graduate and model he had met several months earlier and with whom he was "besotted." The two had eaten dinner together at Pistorius' house, in a gated Pretoria development, and then repaired to his bedroom upstairs. There they whiled away the evening texting, surfing the Internet, watching television and chatting before eventually falling asleep.

In earlier testimony, Pistorius had read through an almost numbing litany of text messages he exchanged with Steenkamp, replete with endearments and emoticons. That was part of the defense's effort to establish that, contrary to the prosecution's account, the pair had a loving and supportive relationship, one that had weathered earlier disagreements and had allowed them to hang out happily together at his house.

Feb. 13 was a hot and muggy night, Pistorius testified, and his air conditioning was not working. He woke up in the middle of the night, spoke to Steenkamp, who he says was also awake, and then - without turning on the lights or putting on his prosthetic legs - went to the balcony next to his bedroom to move the electric fans he had set up there, he said. □





**Early Bird Dinner**  
Come & see the spectacular Sunset & receive a 10% discount on your dinner, between 5:30 & 7 pm, by presenting this Ad.  
Our menu offer an impressive selection of Fresh Seafood (caught daily by our own fleet), International Dishes and a relaxing Atmosphere.  
**DAILY HAPPY HOUR**  
at our Captain's Morgan Bar from 4 - 6 pm \$4 Bar.  
Open from 11 am - 10 pm  
For Reservations call: 5862259  
Located between Holiday Inn Hotel & Playa Linda Resort www.pelican-aruba.com



**Afghanistan:**

## Number of election complaints 'almost nothing'



Afghan election workers carry out of a ballot box from a truck at the warehouse of the Independent Elections Commission in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

(AP Photo/Allauddin Khan)

voting after one was killed in an attack by insurgents. Under Afghan election law, the candidates are supposed to refrain from claiming victory until the official results are released, which may not come until April 24, officials have said. "In addition to urging presidential candidates and their supporters to respect the work of the IEC and IECC," said Jan Kubis, the chief U.N. official here, referring to the election commission and the complaints commission, "I also call on them to await the release of official results and counsel them against making premature announcements based on unofficial counts, as these

could lead to confusion." Nonetheless, of the three major candidates, two have let it be known that they believed they had won outright by taking more than 50 percent of the vote in the first round. One candidate - Ashraf Ghani, a former World Bank official and longtime Karzai aide - went as far as posting a pie chart on his personal Facebook page showing 57 percent of the vote for him, with Abdullah Abdullah, the runner-up in 2009, supposedly receiving 26 percent and Zalmay Rasoul, Karzai's former foreign minister and the candidate widely believed to be his favorite, a distant third with 10 percent. □

**ROD NORDLAND**  
**MATTHEW ROSENBERG**  
© 2014 New York Times

**KABUL, Afghanistan** - The Afghan presidential election on Saturday appeared to be substantially cleaner than the widely discredited 2009 election, according to complaint figures released Tuesday by the authorities here.

None of the leading candidates have said so far that they would dispute this year's balloting, whose results have not yet been announced.

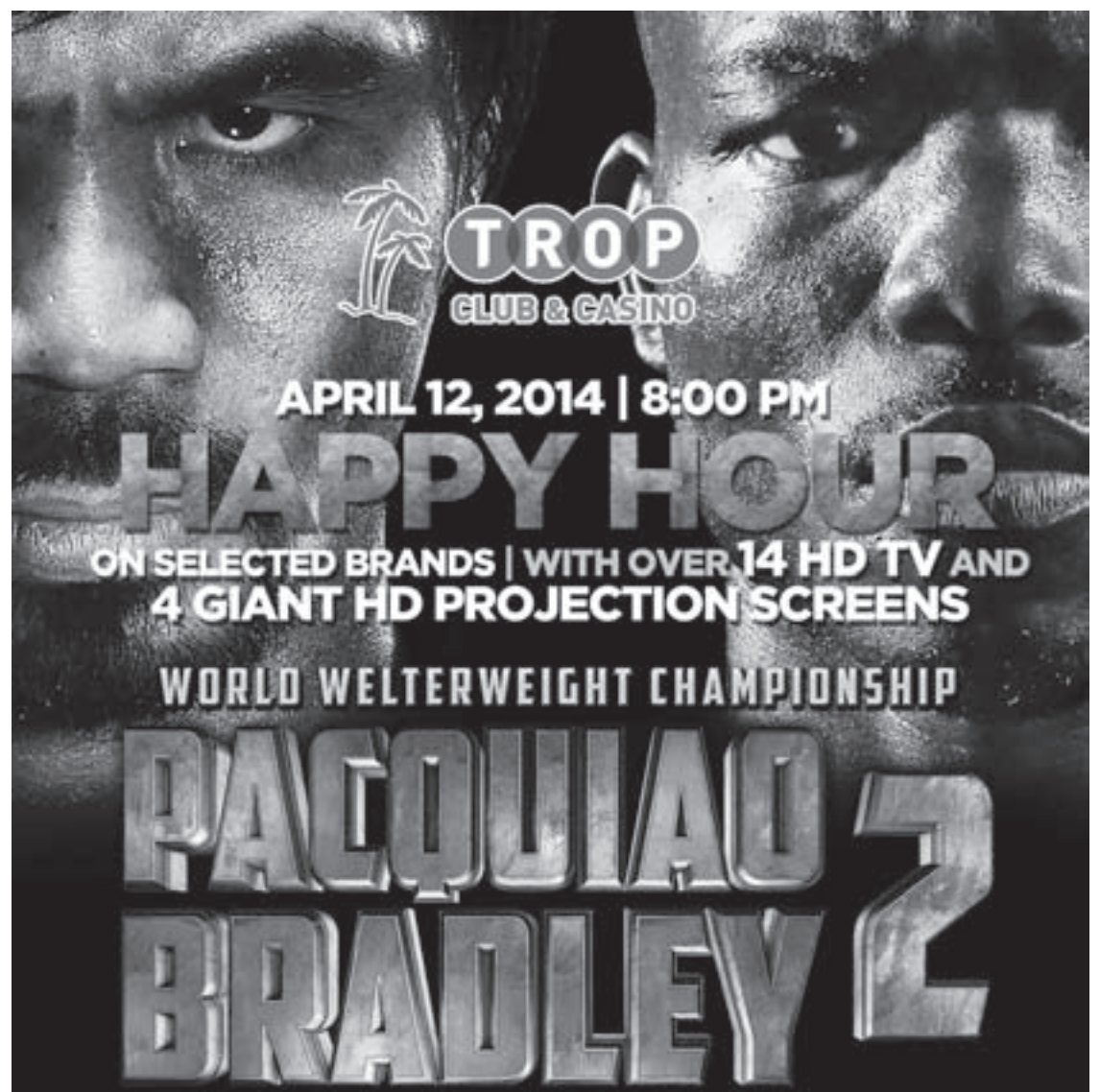
Widespread complaints about ballot-box stuffing in 2009 led the country's Independent Election Complaints Commission to order a recount, which cost President Hamid Karzai the outright majority that he initially appeared to have secured, though he still won a second term.

The spokesman for the commission, Nader Mohseni, said Tuesday that the voting process had gone much better this year. "The

scale of fraud and violations in this election was much lower compared to previous elections," Mohseni said, citing both international and Afghan election observers.

In the 48-hour period for filing complaints, which ended Monday night, the commission recorded 1,573 formal complaints, Mohseni said. "Compared with 7.5 million people who voted, that number is very small; it's almost nothing," he said. "That's what the international observers believe as well." He said that 228 of the complaints were lodged against one or another of the eight presidential candidates or their campaigns.

By contrast, the commission recorded 2,842 complaints after the 2009 election, according to the National Democratic Institute. The institute had international monitors in Afghanistan in 2009 and tried again this year, but withdrew the monitors shortly before the





## Honeymoon slaying suspect charged in S. Africa

C. TORCHIA

Associated Press

**JOHANNESBURG (AP)** — A British man accused of arranging the killing of his wife on their honeymoon was charged with murder in South Africa on Tuesday, hours after arriving from Britain following a lost battle to avoid extradition. Shrien Dewani landed at Cape Town's international airport in a plane chartered by South Africa's justice ministry because of concerns about security and adequate monitoring of his medical condition if he had taken a commercial flight, the ministry said in a statement. The government "did not want to take chances" with Dewani's transfer because of "undisputed evidence" during his extradition hearing that he had shown suicidal tendencies, according to the ministry.

Lawyers for the 34-year-old businessman say he suffers from post-traumatic stress and depression and is unfit to stand trial. He arrived in South Africa with an escort consisting of a doctor, a nurse and officials from Interpol and the South African police, the government said.

Dewani's 28-year-old bride, Anni, was found shot dead in an abandoned taxi in a poor area of Cape Town in November 2010. Dewani, who denies wrongdoing, is accused of hiring men to kill his wife and make it look like a botched carjacking during what he said was a



**Shrien Dewani arrives at the airport in Cape Town, South Africa, Tuesday April, 8, 2014. Dewani, arrived under escort in South Africa from Britain, after he lost a long battle to avoid extradition. He is accused of arranging the killing of his wife, Anni, on their honeymoon in November 2010.**

(AP Photo/Leigh-Anne Jansen, eNCA)

township tour. Three men, including the cab's driver and a gunman, have been convicted for the murder. Dewani was taken in a po-

lice convoy soon after his arrival in South Africa to the Western Cape High Court. He was charged with murder, conspiracy to com-

mit murder and defeating the ends of justice and his case was postponed to May 12, pending a medical examination to determine whether he would be able to stand trial, the South African police said in a statement.

"We wish Dewani well as far as his health is concerned, in order for him to be able to tell his side of the story. Our investigating team is ready to resume with the trial," Lt. Anwa Dramat, head of a police investigative unit called the Hawks, said in a statement.

Dewani will be held at the Valkenberg psychiatric hospital in Cape Town, the South African Press Association reported.

The Briton, who had grey streaks in his hair, looked straight ahead during his court appearance, the news agency reported. He was represented by prominent lawyer Francois van Zyl. Some of his relatives attended the hearing. Members of the women's league of South Africa's ruling party, the African National Congress, gathered at the courthouse to condemn violence against women and show support for the family of Anni Dewani.

South African authorities had allowed Dewani to leave for Britain after his wife's killing. He was later arrested there, setting the stage for a legal battle over extradition that lasted years. Britain's High Court last month rejected all his grounds for appeal. □

## Haitian quake displaced camps growing again

TRENTON DANIEL

Associated Press

**PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)**

— Many of the camps for Haitians displaced by the 2010 earthquake are growing again, even as the overall population of people displaced by the disaster continues to fall, according to a study released Monday.

The International Organization for Migration, a Geneva-based humanitarian group backed by 155 governments, said on Monday that 78 of the 243 remaining camps saw numbers rise.

For example, Petionville, one of the districts that make up the hilly Port-au-Prince metropolitan area, experienced a minor uptick, from 8,451 people in December to 8,498 in March.

The IOM reported that many people said they were forced to return because they couldn't afford rents elsewhere after year-long subsidies ran out. The rent help had been backed by aid groups to help people move out of camps. Some people said they came to camps back to rejoin family members. Others said they merely switched camps.

"This phenomenon, even though always present ... is lately becoming more visible," the report said.

Still the total population living in such encampments continued to decline. The new report said that number is now at 137,543 people, almost 9,000 fewer than reported in January. The IOM said it peaked at 1.5 million several months after the January 2010 quake.

Haitian officials say the number of camps, too, is falling.

"A whole lot of camps that are registered are being cleared out right now," said Clement Belizaire, a director at the government's office for the construction of accommodation and public buildings.

He said the need for people to return to camps would be reduced if foreign donors keep up support for rent subsidy problems. □

## Kashmir gunbattle kills 2 rebels, 3 Indian troops

**SRINAGAR, India (AP)** — Indian government forces engaged suspected rebels in a fierce gunbattle overnight that left two rebels dead along with an Indian soldier and two police officers in the disputed Himalayan region of Kashmir, officials said Tuesday. The fighting erupted Monday night after army soldier and police began searching for suspected militants in Zumreshi village, about 120 kilometers northwest of Srinagar, Army spokesman

Lt. Col. Nitin Narahar Joshi said.

The troops killed two suspected rebels on Tuesday, hours after losing an army officer and two policemen in the fighting, a police officer said on customary condition of anonymity. He said four officers were also wounded.

Zumreshi is close to the so-called Line of Control, a highly militarized, de-facto border dividing Kashmir between India and Pakistan. The neighboring

countries both claim the region in its entirety.

Kashmir sees flares of violence often during spring and summer, as anti-India rebels step up demands for independence or incorporation into Pakistan. Also on Tuesday, suspected militants fired on a police officer at close range, wounding him in the head as he was guarding a market in the southern town of Anantnag, police said. The wounded officer was in critical condition at a hos-

pital. Police said the militants had also seized the officer's automatic rifle.

No rebel group has issued any statement about either incident.

About 68,000 people have been killed since 1989 in an armed uprising and subsequent crackdown by Indian forces. While the armed rebellion has largely been suppressed, anti-India resentment still runs deep and is mainly expressed through street protests. □





## Get Lucky During Trop Club & Casino Sporting Events



**EAGLE BEACH** - The Trop Club & Casino has been showing the WWE 2014 sporting events to a full house of visiting and local fans. The raw and exciting wrestling matches are shown on 14 HD TV screens, and 4 Giant HD Screens, in the spacious and friendly bar area of the casino. On Saturday April 12th, 2014, from 8pm, the bar will be showing the much anticipated Pacquiao VS Bradley 2 world welter-weight championship fight, with food specials and happy hour drink prices on

selected brands and beers. The upcoming rematch between Manny Pacquiao and Timothy Bradley promises to be a boxing bout for the ages. It pits two bitter rivals against one another for the second time, and there are plenty of intriguing subplots surrounding the battle. Pac-Man will be seeking to exact his revenge on Desert Storm after the American handed him his first loss since 2005 during a controversial 2012 fight. Bradley will be looking to cement his credibility as a cham-



pion by leaving no doubt who the winner is this time. Reservations are welcome, by just contacting the casino at tel: 730-9141. Pictured here some recent WWE sporting events at the bar. While watching your favorite sports you are

invited to play any of the casino table games or slot machines, you might get as lucky as Sidney. Sidney Geerman, hit the super jackpot for the amount of

\$26,106.00 / AWG 47,000 while playing the Bally Hot Spin machine. He is seen here with his girlfriend, Casino Director Wilfred Trimon, and Moizes Tromp. □





# Red Sail Sports proudly introduces the new JETLEV!

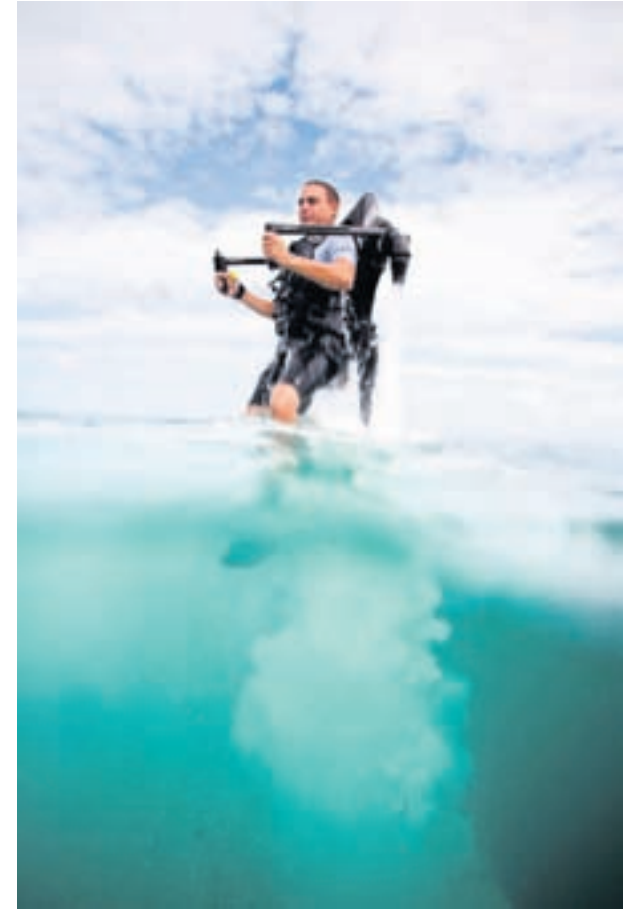
**PALM BEACH** - Red Sail Sports takes pride in introducing you to the coolest, most exhilarating water sports ride of your life – the JETLEV! You can literally fly over the ocean, soar up to 30 feet in the air... or hover and walk along the water.

JETLEV is unlike any thrill ride you'll ever experience and exclusively available at Red Sail Sports. JETLEV is a water propelled Jetpack. The system is powered by a custom-designed 225 horsepower engine creating 800 – 1000

gallons per minute of thrust, which can propel the pilot to heights of 30 feet. The throttle can also be controlled remotely by the flight-instructor which will guide the rider how to use the controls during their initial flight to ensure a safe

and controlled experience. A flight assistant will accompany each JETLEV pilot to ensure a safe and uninterrupted flight experience. After an introduction to the JETLEV equipment, you will receive a thorough briefing by one of our certified

instructors. The instructor will explain how to safely operate the equipment and will be able to communicate with you during your flight. After the instruction, you will have approximately 30 minutes of in-pack flying time (most first-time pilots



**Beauty  
On The  
Beach**

*Daniela Govea  
y Alejandra  
Febres*

From: Maracaibo  
Venezuela, coming  
to Aruba for 3 years  
consecutive, and  
always stay at Casa  
del Mar.

**The Blue Lobster**  
INTERNATIONAL CUISINE & LOBSTER HOUSE  
Phone: 586-3843

**WINNER OF TRIP ADVISOR'S CERTIFICATE OF EXCELLENCE 2012**  
Best Lobster House and International  
Cuisine's Restaurant



are flying within the first 5 minutes). The flight is monitored by the instructor as well as an assistant who will assist while you are in the water. The complete JETLEV experience takes approximately 45 minutes. Participants must be at least 18 years of age and be a good swimmer to fly. The activity is not suitable for pregnant women. Minimum height is 4'9" (145 cm), maximum 6'9" (205 cm). More information on Red Sail Sports and JETLEV can be found at [www.redsail-aruba.com](http://www.redsail-aruba.com). □



## Loyal visitors honored by Aruba Tourism Authority

**PALM BEACH** - Mr. and Mrs. Marcel & Suzanne Payeur were recently honored as Goodwill Ambassadors due to their 27th consecutive visit to Aruba. Ms. Marouska Heyliger representing the Aruba Tourism Authority conducted the ceremony which was held at the Holiday Inn Resort. According to the couple, they love the people and the amazing food. On group picture you can admire, the honorees and Lucien of the Holiday Inn Resort. □



## Wild CASH Wednesday

- Win your share of -

**\$500 in Cash Prizes!**

Earn one Free Entry Ticket for every 50 Points earned today from 10am to 10pm.

Cash Prize Raffles from 10:30pm to 11:30pm!

*Where Aruba goes to play!*

Open daily 10am to 4am • J.E. Irausquin Blvd #47 • 583.5000 • [www.casinoalhambra.com](http://www.casinoalhambra.com)

Must be an Alhambra Advantage member. All programs and promotions are subject to change or cancellation without prior notice.

**Alhambra**  
CASINO AND SHOPS



# Pot growers association launched in Jamaica

DAVID McFADDEN

Associated Press

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP)

— A group of influential Jamaicans gathered Saturday to launch an association of supposed future marijuana cultivators as momentum builds toward loosening laws prohibiting pot on the Caribbean island.

Some 300 people, including a few medical marijuana entrepreneurs from Canada and the U.S. state of Colorado, assembled at a conference center in downtown Kingston to officially launch the Ganja Future Growers and Producers Association. Among other things, the group will lobby for creation of a regulated cannabis industry on the tropi-

cal island that is nearly as famous for its pot as it is for its scenic beaches and unique culture.

The moderator of the Saturday event was Kingston Mayor Angela Brown-Burke, who is also a senator and a vice president of the ruling People's National Party. Her husband, Paul Burke, is one of the leaders of the new association and also an influential PNP figure. Groups that spoke in support of the venture included the country's scientific research council, agricultural society and the Jamaican campus of the University of the West Indies.

"Jamaica has a prime opportunity to enter and revolutionize an industry that could have an enormous



Farmer nicknamed Breezy shows his illegal patch of budding marijuana plants during a tour of his land in Jamaica's central mountain town of Nine Mile. Breezy says Americans, Germans and increasingly Russian tourists have toured his small farm and sampled his crop. A group of influential Jamaicans gathered Saturday to launch an association of supposed future marijuana cultivators as momentum builds toward loosening laws prohibiting pot on the Caribbean island.

(AP Photo/David McFadden)

## Gold Coast Aruba... A Place for You!

Please call for a  
**FREE pick-up!**

Open week days  
from 8am - 5pm.

Saturday and Sunday  
on appointment only.



3 minutes drive to  
**Arashi Beach**

Across an 18-hole  
**Golf Course**

### Luxury Villas, Town Homes & Condos

Contact us by email at [info@goldcoastaruba.com](mailto:info@goldcoastaruba.com)  
Tel: +297-586-2200 • Fax: +297-586-2201  
Toll Free from the U.S. 1-866-978-5770  
[www.goldcoastaruba.com](http://www.goldcoastaruba.com)

**PRICE STARTING FROM \$289,000**

Visit us for Your Island Dream Home Ownership  
Monthly Mortgage Payments  
starting from \$1,650



kickback on our growth and development potential," said Rupert Lewis, a politics professor who spoke on behalf of the Mona campus of the University of the West Indies. Marijuana has been pervasive but outlawed on the island for a century. But as the pot legalization movement gains unprecedented traction across the globe, most notably in the South American nation of Uruguay and the U.S. states of Colorado and Washington, there's a growing push to lift restrictions in Jamaica to give the island's long struggling economy a big boost. Reform supporters believe Jamaica could become a powerhouse in medical marijuana research, a renowned global exporter to nations with legal cannabis and the developer of new pot products. Local scientists already have a history of creating innovative marijuana-derived medicines, including "Canasol," which helps relieve pressure in the eyes of glaucoma patients. Charles Nesson, a Harvard law professor who helped found the Massachusetts university's Berkman Center for Internet and Society, said Jamaica

and marijuana are basically synonymous due to the homegrown spiritual movement of Rastafari and pot-steeped cultural expressions like reggae music. He said the global marijuana movement "needs the leadership of Jamaica."

"But there is a huge danger. And the danger is that you will miss the boat, that you will talk too long," warned Nesson, who elicited loud cheers when he acknowledged being a marijuana smoker, unlike several Jamaican speakers who carefully stressed they did not smoke the locally banned herb.

The new Jamaican association is starting as some government officials have publicly taken up the idea of loosening restrictions, including Health Minister Fenton Ferguson who said late last year he was "fully on board" with medical marijuana.

But the government has provided little clarity on what it intends to do. Technology Minister Philip Paulwell, leader of government business in the House, has hinted that ganja will be decriminalized this year, yet nothing official has been announced. □





## Without Tiger, the Master has open look

**AUGUSTA, Ga. (AP)** -- One after another, some of the world's best players and favorites to win the Masters trudged up the hill on the opening hole to start their practice rounds. Phil Mickelson. Rory McIlroy. Adam Scott. It was typical of any Tuesday at Augusta National, except for the scoreboard to the right of where they were walking. The board has the names

of all 97 players in the field, with blank boxes to put their scores when the tournament begins. On the far right side of the board is a list of this year's noncompeting invitees. Tommy Aaron. Doug Ford. Tiger Woods. "It's a weird feeling not having him here, isn't it?" said Phil Mickelson, a three-time Masters champion and the chief foil for Woods over the years. "He's been such

a mainstay in professional golf and in the majors. It's awkward to not have him here. I hope he gets back soon. I hope he's back for the other majors. As much as I want to win - and I know how great he is and tough to beat - it makes it special when he's in the field and you're able to win." Woods hasn't been the same all year, even before back surgery last week. He

is missing the Masters for the first time. His presence looms as large as some of the Georgia pines lining the fairways, though it will be forgotten when the opening shot is in the air Thursday, and a green jacket is awarded Sunday. Even so, Woods brings a buzz to any tournament, even at Augusta National. And this year, his absence has brought talk of the

most wide-open Masters in nearly 20 years. Las Vegas has installed Scott and McIlroy as the betting favorites at 10-1, followed by Mickelson, Jason Day and Matt Kuchar at 12-1. McIlroy had his own version of a betting sheet on the table where he sat during his interview - the tee times for the opening two rounds.

**Continued on Next Page**



# Without Tiger, the Master has open look

*Continued from Previous Page*

Told that 97 players were in the field, the 24-year-old from Northern Ireland figured 70 had a chance to win.

"There's a few past champions that play that might not be able to compete. There might be a few first-timers or a few amateurs that won't compete," McIlroy said. "But then you've got the rest. I'm just looking down the list here. Stewart Cink. Tim Clark. Ian Woosnam - no."

The room filled with laughter as McIlroy smiled and said, "Sorry, Woosie," referring to the 56-year-old former champion.

"You've got a lot of guys that can win, a lot of guys that have won PGA Tour events," McIlroy said. "OK, we're playing at Augusta. Because it's the Masters and because it's so big and so hyped up or whatever you want to say, you ought to remember that you're still playing against the same guys you play with week in and week out.

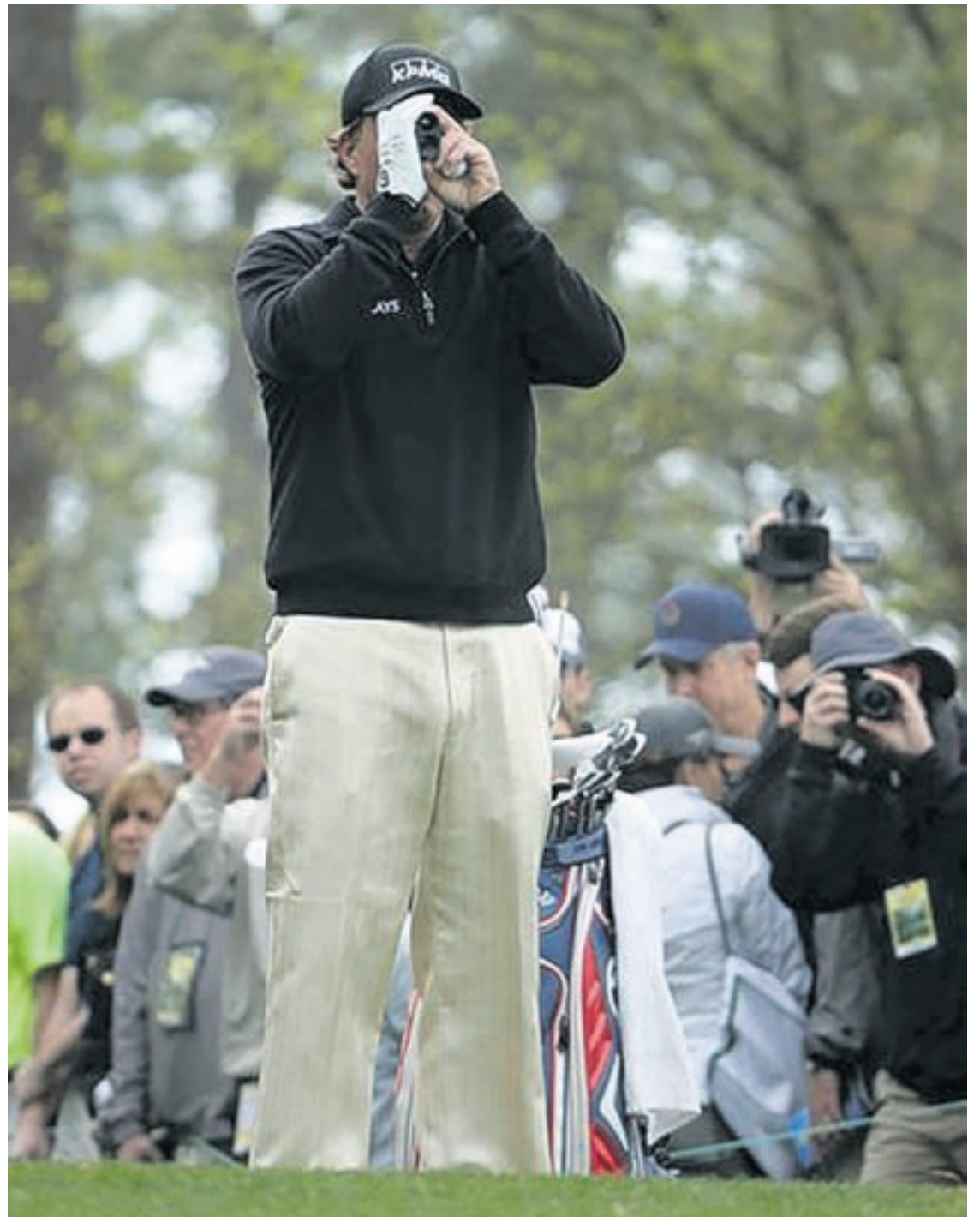
"I've beaten them before," he said. "They've beaten me before."

The PGA Tour is 21 tournaments into the season, and only one player (Zach Johnson) won while he was in the top 10 in the world. McIlroy and Scott each had comfortable leads going into the final round and lost to players outside the top 100.

"I think in the past, certainly that's been easy to go to events and look at a guy who is the guy to beat," Scott said, not naming Woods because he didn't need to. "I think that scope has kind of broadened now. There's a lot of guys with the talent and the form that aren't necessarily standing out above the others. But on their week, they're going to be tough to beat.

"I'd like to think my name is one of those guys," Scott said. "And I feel like I'm going to be one of the guys who has got a chance if I play well this week."

Scott had one more occasion to wear his green jacket Tuesday night as host of the Champions



**Phil Mickelson looks at the distance to the fourth green during a practice round for the Masters golf tournament Tuesday, April 8, 2014, in Augusta, Ga.**  
Associated Press



**Rory McIlroy, of Northern Ireland, hits from the sand trap to the second green during practice for the Masters golf tournament Tuesday, April 8, 2014 in Augusta, Ga.**

Associated Press

Dinner. Then, he sets out in a bid to join Jack Nicklaus, Nick Faldo and Woods as the only players to win back-to-back Masters.

For years, the Masters was seen as having the smallest group of contenders, and not just because it had the smallest field of the four majors. Augusta National is a puzzle that can take years to figure out. The roars that reverberate through the trees and from deep in Amen Corner on Sunday can be unsettling.

Scott won two years after he was a runner-up. Jason Day has completed two Masters and has

yet to finish worse than third. As for Mickelson? There's no telling what he might accomplish next. Even though he has withdrawn from two tournaments with different injuries this year, Augusta invigorates the 43-year-old Mickelson. All of them would love to be near the top of the leaderboard Sunday afternoon. By then, no one will be thinking about anything except a green jacket.

"No matter who is in contention or who is going to win this week, the Masters always provides a great finish," McIlroy said. "Regardless of who is there." □





## AL Capsules

# Jeter gets win in Yankees home opener

**The Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Derek Jeter gave Yangervis Solarte some assistance with Yankee Stadium tradition, then the rookie helped make the captain a winner in his final home opener Monday as New York beat the Baltimore Orioles 4-2 in the American League.

Jeter, who will retire at the end of the 2014 season, doubled high off the left-field wall and scored on Jacoby Ellsbury's single in the fifth. Hiroki Kuroda (1-1) went 6 1-3 sharp innings in the Yankees' 112th opener in New York.

Playing in his first game in the Bronx, Solarte needed Jeter to tell him to wave to the group of fans known as the Bleacher Creatures when they chanted his name during the pregame roll call.

Jeter's double-play grounder back to Orioles starter Ubaldo Jimenez (0-2) then scored Solarte in the third inning for the Yankees' first run.

Shawn Kelley pitched a perfect ninth for his first career save. After the game, the Yankees said closer David Robertson would be put on the disabled list with a strained groin.

**RED SOX 5, RANGERS 1 BOSTON (AP)** — John Lackey pitched seven strong innings and Jackie Bradley Jr. singled in two runs as Boston ended a three-game losing streak with a win over Texas.

The Red Sox never lost more than three straight last year when they won the World Series.

They avoided dropping their first four home games for the first time since 1984. Lackey (2-0) allowed an unearned run and five hits in seven innings. Chris Capuano pitched the eighth and Koji Uehara escaped a ninth-inning jam in a non-save situation.

Tanner Scheppers (0-1) allowed Bradley's run-scoring hits in the second and fourth, and Boston added three runs in the eighth.

Bradley, Mike Napoli and A.J. Pierzynski each had three singles for the Red Sox.

**ROYALS 4, RAYS 2**

**KANSAS CITY, Missouri (AP)** — Jason Vargas took a shutout into the ninth inning and Alcides Escobar hit a three-run double as Kansas City beat Tampa Bay in a game that included two significant injuries.

Rays starter Matt Moore (0-2) came out in the fifth inning with a sore left elbow. The Major League Baseball All-Star lefty grimaced after throwing a pitch to Norichika Aoki and was immediately removed by manager Joe Maddon.

Two innings later, Royals second baseman Omar Infante was hit in the face by a pitch from reliever Heath Bell and also left the game. Vargas (1-0) allowed four hits in eight-plus innings, lowering his ERA to 1.20 in two starts. He lost his shut-



From left, former New York Yankees relief pitcher Mariano Rivera, former Yankees catcher Jorge Posada, New York Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter and former New York Yankees starting pitcher Andy Pettitte embrace after Rivera and Pettitte threw out the ceremonial first pitches to Posada and Jeter before the Yankees home opening baseball game against the Baltimore Orioles, at Yankee Stadium in New York, Monday, April 7, 2014.

**Associated Press**

out bid when Ben Zobrist homered on his second pitch in the ninth.

Greg Holland earned his third save, but not before giving up an RBI single to pinch-hitter Matt Joyce. Escobar was 1 for 19 before his bases-loaded double off the left field wall with two outs in the seventh. Evan Longoria had three hits for the Rays, who have lost seven straight in Kansas City.

**ANGELS 9, ASTROS 1 HOUSTON (AP)** — C.J. Wilson pitched eight solid innings and Howie Kendrick

and Raul Ibanez each drove in three runs as Los Angeles beat Houston.

The Angels took three of four from Houston after starting the season 0-3. Kole Calhoun homered off Houston starter Jarrod Cosart (1-1).

Wilson (1-1) yielded four hits and a run while fanning seven.

**ATHLETICS 8, TWINS 3 MINNEAPOLIS (AP)** — Yoenis Cespedes proved he can play through an injured right heel, giving Oakland a spark with a pair of RBIs that helped spoil Minnesota's home opener.

Cespedes, who has been hobbling around the last few days with the injury, hit a double in the second inning for the first run against Kevin Correia (0-1) and later had a sacrifice fly.

Moss added a two-run single in the third and Derek Norris homered in the sixth. Scott Kazmir (2-0) allowed three runs and six hits.

In other AL games it was N.Y. Yankees 4, Baltimore 2; L.A. Angels 9, Houston 1; Oakland 8, Minnesota 3; Boston 5, Texas 1; Kansas City 4, Tampa Bay 2; and Colorado 8, Chicago White Sox 1. □



# Connecticut wins national college basketball title

**ARLINGTON, Texas (AP)**

— Shabazz Napier scored 22 points to lead the University of Connecticut to its second national college basketball title in four years, beating the University of Kentucky 60-54 in the championship game Monday. Napier is among three Connecticut seniors who were part of the Huskies' 2011 title. That trio stayed after coach Jim Calhoun's retirement, even when the Huskies were ineligible for the national tournament last season for not meeting the required academic standards. They came back strong in new coach Kevin Ollie's second season, and the Huskies went all the way to the title. Kentucky, with five freshmen starters, never led in the championship game. The Wildcats missed 11 of 24 free throws, while the Huskies were perfect on 10 tries. "You're looking at the hungry Huskies," Napier told the crowd after the game. "Ladies and gentlemen, this is what happens when you banned us."

Connecticut led by as many as 15 in the first half and watched the Wildcats trim the deficit to one with 8:13 left. But Aaron Harrison, who pulled out wins with clutch 3-pointers in Kentucky's last three games, missed a 3 from the left corner that would've given the Wildcats the lead. Kentucky never got that close again.



**Connecticut guard Terrence Samuel, left, and guard Lasan Kromah hold the championship trophy after beating Kentucky 60-54, at the NCAA Final Four tournament college basketball championship game Monday, April 7, 2014, in Arlington, Texas.**

**Associated Press.**

Kentucky was led by James Young, who had 20 points, seven rebounds.

"We had our chances to win," Kentucky coach John Calipari said. "We're missing shots, we're missing free throws. We just didn't have enough."

Connecticut came into the tournament a seventh-seeded afterthought but

walked away with the program's fourth national title since 1999. They were the highest seed to win it all since eighth-seeded Villanova in 1985.

A year ago, the Huskies were preparing for their first season in the new American Athletic Conference after being expelled from the Big East and not

welcomed by any of the so-called power college conferences. Calhoun, who built the program, left because of health problems. And most damaging — the National Collegiate Athletic Association ban triggered an exodus of five key players to the NBA or other schools.

Ollie didn't give up on the

guys who stuck around. He figured out how to make their grit, court sense and loyalty pay off.

"From the beginning, coach Ollie told us that we have a chance to be on top if we worked hard," Napier said. "He always told us that. We always knew that the words were: 'If we work hard.'" □



**Cincinnati Reds' Joey Votto safely dives back to first on a pickoff attempt during the fourth inning of a baseball game against the St. Louis Cardinals Monday, April 7, 2014, in St. Louis.**

**Associated Press**

**The Associated Press**

**ST. LOUIS (AP)** — Michael Wacha outpitched Tony Cingrani in a rematch of young power arms and the St. Louis Cardinals got

a three-run double from Yadier Molina in the first inning to beat the Cincinnati Reds 5-3 in their National League home opener Monday.

## NL Capsules Wacha pitches Cards past Reds 5-3 in home opener

The Cardinals bunched three hits and a walk over the first five hitters to take the early lead against Cingrani (0-1), who allowed two hits in seven scoreless innings six days earlier against St. Louis at home. Matt Holliday and Allen Craig added RBIs in the seventh.

Wacha (1-0) hadn't allowed a run in 21 career innings against the Reds before back-to-back doubles by Brayan Pena and pinch-hitter Roger Bernadina in the fifth. The

NL championship series Most Valuable Player benefited from two double-play balls in six stingy innings and has permitted one run in 13 2-3 innings his first two starts.

**INTERLEAGUE**

**ROCKIES 8, WHITE SOX 1**  
**DENVER (AP)** — Jordan Lyles used his arm and bat to lead Colorado over the Chicago White Sox in his home debut for the Rockies.

Lyles (2-0) pitched 6 2-3 effective innings, scattering five hits and walking two.

He also had a career-best three hits and drove in two runs. He joined the Rockies from Houston in a trade for Dexter Fowler last winter. Carlos Gonzalez and Troy Tulowitzki homered for the Rockies.

Chicago right-hander Felipe Paulino (0-1) allowed six earned runs on nine hits and four walks in 4 1-3 innings in his return to Denver, where he pitched for the Rockies in 2011 before being plagued by arm troubles the last two years. □





Pelican Adventures

## Champagne Brunch Cruise

28th Anniversary

Includes continental breakfast, lunch, open bar, mimosas, 3rd lung, snorkeling equipment. Our fleet are custom built Catamarans, with shaded area, restrooms, sunbathing nets, Spacious deck for dancing, easy embarking from our Pelican Pier, with professional crew members.

**Stops: Catalina Bay, Antilla Ship Wreck & Malmok Bay**

Visit us at Casa del Mar, Playa Linda, Holiday Inn Concierge/lobby desk/ beach huts or at our own Pelican Pier, located between the Holiday Inn & Playa Linda Resort.

**For reservations call 587-2302 (Mon-Sun) Or book online at: [www.pelican-aruba.com](http://www.pelican-aruba.com)**

PRESENT THIS AD AND RECEIVE \$10 DISCOUNT PER COUPLE

# Struggling Pacers still looking for way to rebound

MICHAEL MAROT

AP Sports Writer

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) —

Lance Stephenson shook his head in disbelief. All-Star starter Paul George repeatedly urged his Indiana teammates to get going, and All-Star center Roy Hibbert sat speechless on the bench during the final 30 minutes on the game.

This wasn't just another bad loss for the Pacers. It was another chapter in their shocking collapse as the NBA regular season comes to a close.

"I don't think it's acceptable for any of us in our organization to play the way we played tonight and we're just going to get back to work to fix it, to get back on track," coach Frank Vogel said following Atlanta's 107-88 rout of the Pacers Sunday night in Indianapolis.

The Pacers missed their first seven shots and scored a team-record-low 23 points in the first half when they went 7 of 35 from the field. The league's No. 1 defense gave up 55 points and seven 3-pointers in two quarters.

This has been a problem since the All-Star break, with the Pacers allowing 95.8 points per game and putting up the lowest scoring average of any team in the NBA last month. The Pacers are 20-17 since Jan. 24 and 7-12 on the road. Even their once-invincible home-court edge doesn't look so imposing after losing to San Antonio by 26 points and Atlanta by 19.

Are the Pacers in a free fall? They look listless at times, sure, but San Antonio coach Gregg Popovich noted that all teams go through these sorts of struggles during the season. Spurs guard Tony Parker

said he still expects Indiana and Miami to meet in the Eastern Conference finals.

But there's no doubt this is not the same team that started 17-2, was 33-8 at the midway point of the season and made two February moves — signing free agent Andrew Bynum and sending injury-prone Danny Granger to Philadelphia in a trade deadline deal for Evan Turner — that made it clear the Pacers thought they could dethrone two-time defending NBA champion Miami.

After losing for the fifth time in six games, the Pacers are now one game behind Miami in the Eastern Conference standings.

Vogel benched Hibbert for the final 2½ quarters Sunday because he thought Hibbert looked fatigued. Vogel noted afterward that his entire starting lineup looked tired, though he played George and David West deep into the fourth quarter. Hibbert did not take questions after the game.

There has been speculation about a growing rift between the Pacers' young coach and their star center, who has publicly complained about "selfish dudes" and suggested the Pacers needed "group therapy."

Teammates deny there are any problems between the two.

"Roy will settle down," West said when asked how Hibbert responded to the benching. "He's down on himself because he felt like he could have helped us, but coach made a decision. Coach has to make some tough decisions sometimes, and it was to get him some rest. ... Coach made the right choice."



Indiana Pacers forward David West (21) backs down Detroit Pistons forward Josh Smith (6) during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Indianapolis, Wednesday, April 2, 2014.

Associated Press

There have also been questions about Stephenson's body language and his untimely ejection in the March 26 win over Miami and whether the Pacers' struggles can be blamed on a young team wilting in the spotlight.

What can the Pacers do to fix all these problems before the playoffs start?

"For one, we just can't panic. I mean we can't panic. We've just got to be loose about it," George said. "We're just putting

too much pressure where it doesn't need to be brought. We just got to do what we do. We're in a great position right now." At 53-25, Indiana has clinched its second straight Central Division title, still has the NBA's best home record (34-6) and trails Miami by just one game in the East.

Before the season, fans would have applauded the Pacers' current position. On Sunday, they booed.

"It's understandable. You know we scored 23 points in the first half. That's unacceptable and we know that," George said. "But I don't think we deserve to be booed. You know, all that we've done this year. I definitely thought it was uncalled for."

They have four regular-season games remaining, including a Friday night showdown at Miami.

"We're playing good basketball, we're sharing the ball. □



## Joyful Heart - By: Dr Carlos Viana

While interning in Shanghai as a Traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) physician, I learned that an energetic heart allows the expression of joy. The literary word for lightening the mood of something is "leaven"; as in "readers tell me that these weekly articles leaven or enliven their mood". The Modern Greek word "leaven" is "enzumos" that yields the word enzyme. Enzymes are proteins produced by the cells that control or "turn on" thousands of body reactions. One enzyme family is digestive enzymes, which help the body naturally, digest food, a good thing. Plant digestives, like Bromelain from pineapple AND Beta Pepsin or Hydrochloric Acid (HCL) are good supplement choices for overeating or eating the wrong foods. But even good things need help, like Phyllis, without whose organization skills, I would accomplish very little. Similarly, an important partner that helps enzymes work are coenzymes. The prefix "co" means together or jointly, like co-worker.

One coenzyme that is getting a lot of attention is Coenzyme10 or CoQ10. This supplement is widely used in Japan to treat angina, severe chest pains because of a lack of blood to the heart. Pain, shortness of breath, fatigue, swelling of the ankles, legs or abdomen, and increased urination, are all symptoms that may signal that the heart cannot pump sufficient blood to keep pace with the energy demands of the body, congestive heart failure. If you suspect any of the above, it may be a good idea to have a

check-up.

CoQ10 is found in every cell in the body. CoQ10 assists enzymes in bringing oxygen into the cells and producing energy needed for cell growth and maintenance. It is also used by the body as an antioxidant. An antioxidant is a substance that protects cells from unhealthy chemicals called free radicals. Free radicals are highly reactive chemicals that can damage parts of cells, including DNA. DNA is a molecule inside cells that carries genetic information and passes it from one generation to the next. This damage may play a role in the development of cancer. Low blood levels of CoQ10 have been found in patients with bone, lymph gland, breast, lung, prostate, pancreas, colon, kidney, and other cancers.

Think of CoQ10 as an accelerator pedal in your car that sends more fuel to your heart. If the fuel is not available, symptoms of congestive heart failure develop. The fuel for your body is ATP whose structure includes a sugar called ribose. Combining the dietary supplement D-ribose together with CoQ10 is an energizing combination.

As a Clinical Nutritionist I always recommend CoQ10 be taken together with complementary or "co-worker" supplements; because absorption of CoQ10 into your body is poor. In fact, probably over 60 percent of most oral doses of CoQ10 are excreted by the body without being used. Absorption of CoQ10 is greater when taken together with food that has a good quality fat

content, like olive oil, wild caught salmon and butter (notice I did not say margarine). Because of this, I always recommend taking CoQ10 together with a fat or oil, like Omega 3 or Alpha-lipoic acid. Quality dietary supplement manufactures are now producing CoQ10 with enhanced absorption or bioavailability by surrounding each CoQ10 molecule with tiny fat cells of good fats like alpha-lipoic acid

Most modern diets are deficient in Omega 3's and adding Flax seed oil or Fish oils, to a daily supplement program, which includes vitamin C, Magnesium, Zinc and Lecithin is what I feel is a great basic dietary plan. Of course, not everybody utilizes or absorbs the same. If you have any health concerns, visit a clinical nutritionist to be sure you are getting the right combination of co-workers for your needs

Another super oil or fat is alpha lipoic acid which is known as the "universal antioxidant". It has the ability to conserve and prolong the life of vitamins C & E in the body, increasing their effectiveness. Alpha lipoic acid is also an excellent metal detoxifier, particularly for mercury and cadmium.

In Germany, alpha-lipoic acid is an approved medical treatment for nerve damage and pain, a common complication of diabetes. It speeds the removal of glucose from the bloodstream, at least partly by enhancing insulin function, and it reduces insulin resistance, the foundation of many cases of coronary heart disease and obesity.



The richest food source of alpha-lipoic acid is red meat.

Alpha lipoic acid binds easily with CoQ10 making it better absorbed by your body. Because of insufficient dietary intake of healthy oils, taking alpha-lipoic acid together with CoQ10 is a good way to increase absorption of both. These two supplements in combination are extremely effective for prolonging cellular vitality and reducing the body's production of unhealthy free radicals. ALA and CoQ10 also enhance production of ATP which is the body's form of energy.

D-Ribose alone can help your body refuel and stay energized a must for athletes, older individuals, exhausted parents or anyone with busy lives. Together, ALA with CoQ10 and D-ribose help produce much more energy for all body functions, including exercise and relaxing and recovery of the body's muscles. This is a joyous thing, especially for the heart.

Get The Point! Dietary supplements are important tools that can be used to maintain or return health; but, like carpentry tools, knowledge on how to use them is instrumental. An appointment

with a clinical nutritionist can identify your personal needs and introduce the correct co-workers to do the best job. My biocompatible protocol also includes heavy metal and other detoxification and acupuncture, a treatment that rebalances the body's energy, relaxes tight muscles and increases the effectiveness of dietary supplements. Want to allow more joy into your heart? Check out this and more in my book or call to make an appointment.

CARLOS VIANA, Ph. D. is an Oriental Medical Doctor (O.M.D.) having studied in China; a US Board Cert. Clinical Nutritionist (C.C.N.), an Addiction Professional (C.Ad.), Chairperson of the Latin American Committee of the International Academy of Oral Medicine and Toxicology (IAOMT), a Rejuvenating Cell Therapist specializing in Age Management, has a weekly radio program, writes and lectures extensively. For information: VIANA HEALING CENTER, Kibaima 7, St Cruz TEL: 585-1270 Web Site: [www.vianaheal.com](http://www.vianaheal.com) "Prescriptions from Paradise" - 2012 International Book Award Winner - ta op-tenible na Aruba na Viana Healing Center, Tur libreria, Gift shops y centro nan di salud di calidad. tambe ta disponibel den forma do print y pa Kindle download pa nos amigo nan pa fo di Aruba na [www.amazon.com](http://www.amazon.com) Pa anuncio nan acerca di mas evento nan y firmamento di buki check , check corant nan local, radio y television tambe como riba [www.vianaheal.com](http://www.vianaheal.com) y join e discusion riba nos Facebook pagina: [www.facebook.com/prescriptionsfromparadise](http://www.facebook.com/prescriptionsfromparadise)

**Gift Certificates  
Healthy Products**

**M-Sat at Kibaima 7  
(St. Cruz, opposite the Drive-in)  
Walk-ins welcome**

**www.vianaheal.com  
info@vianaheal.com**

**Dr. Carlos Viana**  
Oriental Medicine, Clinical Nutrition, Colon Hydro Therapy

**Need a Whole Body Make-Over? TEL: 585-1270**

Pain & Inflammation – Sleep – Stress – Allergies – Stomach Problems, PMS,  
Menopause, Chronic colds & flu – Fertility, natural Pregnancy, Post-partum – Addiction  
(Alcohol, street & legal Drugs, Gambling, Sex, WEIGHT CONTROL) – AGE Management

Visit  
Aruba's  
Barefoot  
Doctor

**Viana**

HEALING CENTER

**ALCI** • Toxic Heavy Metals, Amino Acids  
• Food & Chemical Sensitivity Testing  
• Specialized Hormone Testing

**Take Home PARADISE**

**Available at local  
Bookstores & Gift shops  
Paperback & eBook on amazon**



# High-tech items giving deaf-blind online access

FRANK ELTMAN

Associated Press

SANDS POINT, N.Y. (AP) —

Tanisha Verdejo loves to surf the Internet for online shopping deals. She chats on Facebook, learns about new recipes and enjoys sending emails to friends and family.

Verdejo, who can't see or hear, could do none of that a year ago.

The 40-year-old New Yorker lives in a group home in Port Washington and is among the thousands of people with combined hearing and vision loss to have benefited from a pilot program called iCan-Connect. The initiative provides low-income deaf-blind individuals with the most up-to-date telecommunications devices for free and special training to use them.

"For me, it's opened up my whole world," Verdejo said through a sign language interpreter at the Helen Keller National Center in suburban Long Island. The center, along with the Boston-based Perkins School for the Blind, is working with state agencies and others around the country to distribute items like refreshable Braille displays, amplified telephones and computer programs that allow for large print displays for those who may be vision-impaired but not entirely blind.

Much of the equipment is



In this Wednesday, March 26, 2014 photo, Ryan Odland, an official with the Helen Keller National Center, demonstrates the use of a specially designed keyboard that helps blind clients access the Internet, in Sands Point, N.Y. At right is interpreter Elizabeth Mundy.

Associated Press

compatible with Apple devices such as the iPhone and iPad and connect via Bluetooth.

"Modern technology has rapidly progressed, and we are available to provide individuals with combined vision and hearing loss the best technology and telecommunications tools for their individual needs," said Thomas J. Edwards, president of Helen Keller Services for the Blind, which has

11 regional offices around the country.

For Verdejo and others, the changes have been dramatic. "I'm able now to access anything I want," Verdejo said. "I mean, I have all these apps here and can see anything now. I see it through my Braille device."

Established by the Federal Communications Commission, the pilot program allocates \$10 million annually

for low-income deaf-blind people to get the equipment. The program, which is in the second year of a three-year study, is open to individuals earning less than \$44,680 annually, with income limits slightly higher in Hawaii and Alaska.

An estimated 2,000 people have benefited in the program's first 18 months, said Betsy McGinnity, a Perkins spokeswoman. She said she was confident it could

be extended beyond the three-year study period.

Dr. Christian Vogler, director of the Technology Access Program at Gallaudet University in Washington, D.C., said because the deaf-blind population is relatively small — about 100,000 in the U.S., according to one estimate — the high-technology devices are very expensive to produce. Some refreshable Braille displays — hand-held electronic devices that employ a network of tiny pins that pop up and down through holes, scrolling letters that a blind person can read — can cost as much as \$6,000.

Software that enlarges text on computer screens can sometimes cost \$800 to \$1,000.

"There's not a lot of profit for these companies; the equipment is very expensive and most can't afford it," Vogler said.

Other devices include amplifiers that assist those with limited hearing loss to know when a telephone is ringing or computer programs that accent certain colors that may assist the vision-impaired. Applicants for the technology go through a rigorous screening process to determine which devices could benefit them best, said Ryan Odland, the New York coordinator of the distribution program for the Helen Keller National Center. □

## NEED CASH TODAY?

### PAWN OR SELL YOUR GOLD



## VISIT US & COMPARE FOR YOURSELF!



## JUWELENHUISJE

OPEN 10AM - 6PM MONDAY - FRIDAY



ORANJESTAD WERFSTRAAT 7 LOK. 12 TEL 588 4141 ☎ SAN NICOLAS B. V/D VEEN ZEPPENFELDSTRAAT 14 TEL 584 4141



# Stocks rise for the first time in four days

**STEVE ROTHWELL**  
**AP Markets Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Maybe the sell-off was a little overdone.

That was the sentiment on Wall Street Tuesday as the stock market broke a three-day losing streak. The gain pushed the Standard & Poor's 500 index back into positive territory for the year.

The rebound was driven partly by bargain-hunting as investors picked up stocks that hold fallen the most in the slump over the previous three days. Utilities stocks also rose sharply as skittish investors bought less-volatile stocks.

"Longer-term investors should really use this as an opportunity to buy attractive areas that have sold off," said Kristina Hooper, US Investment Strategist at Allianz Global Investors. "For them, stocks are on sale."

Stocks have had a volatile start to April. After closing at a record last Wednesday amid optimism about the improving outlook for the economy, stocks fell sharply on Friday as investors decided that some of the high-flying stocks in the technology and biotech sectors no longer justified their lofty valuations.

The S&P 500 rose 6.92 points, or 0.4 percent, to 1,851.96. The Dow Jones industrial average climbed 10.27 points, or 0.06 percent, to 16,256.14. The Nasdaq composite rose 33.23 points, or 0.8 percent, to 4,112.99.

Even as investors sent stocks higher, they were still being cautious. Investors typically buy utilities

stocks when they are worried about volatility in the market. That's because those companies pay big dividends and demand for the power they generate

get back into stocks after switching their investments to cash and bonds in the aftermath of the financial crisis and the Great Recession, said Mike Mussio, a

the cost of idle capacity at aluminum smelters and mills. Wall Street analysts had forecast earnings of 5 cents a share. Overall, corporate earn-



**Trader Greg Mulligan, center, works on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange, Tuesday, April 8, 2014. Stocks were mixed in early trading on Tuesday after a three-day slump. Investors will start to focus on company earnings this week.**

(AP Photo/Richard Drew)

tends to be stable, regardless of how the economy is doing.

On Tuesday, utilities rose 1.5 percent. The sector has gained 10.5 percent this year, making it by far the best performing industry group in the S&P 500. Health care stocks are the next best performers, gaining 2.7 percent over the same period.

Technology stocks and consumer discretionary stocks, among the biggest decliners in the three-day sell-off, also logged gains on Tuesday.

Facebook rose \$1.24, or 2.2 percent, to \$58.19. Google's class newly issued C shares rose \$16.75, or 3.1 percent, to \$554.90. The recent volatility is making it tough for investors who are looking to

managing director with FBB Capital Partners, a wealth management company.

"It is a little nerve-racking for people entering the market just now, with cash they've had on the sidelines," said Mussio.

Corporations start reporting first-quarter earnings this week, which should help stabilize the market, said Joe Quinlan, chief market strategist at U.S. Trust. Quinlan attributed the stock market's recent wobble to investor's jitters ahead of corporate earnings.

Alcoa gained 28 cents, or 2.2 percent, to \$12.81 in after-hours trading after the aluminum company posted earnings that beat analysts' expectations. Alcoa earned 9 cents a share after adjusting for

ings are forecast to grow just 0.2 percent in the first quarter compared with the same period a year ago, according to S&P Capital IQ.

That would be the weakest showing since the third quarter of 2009, when earnings contracted 1.7 percent.

"Seems like every time we come up to earnings season we get a little nervous," Quinlan said. "This will pass."

Energy company Chevron, and banks Wells Fargo and JPMorgan will report their earnings for the first quarter this week, as will Bed Bath & Beyond.

Bond prices rose. The yield on the 10-year Treasury note fell to 2.68 percent from 2.70 percent on Monday. □

## Alcoa posts 1Q loss on smelter, mill shutdowns

**DAVID KOENIG**  
**AP Business Writer**

**DALLAS (AP)** — Alcoa Inc. lost \$178 million in the first quarter as revenue fell on lower aluminum prices, but profit beat expectations after excluding charges to idle capacity at aluminum smelters and mills.

The company said the price it was paid for aluminum dropped 8 percent from a year ago. The weak commodity prices are driving Alcoa to shift away from smelting. It is closing a smelter in New York state and another in Australia and cutting capacity at others in Brazil.

When those moves are complete, Alcoa will have shed 28 percent of its smelting capacity since 2007.

Instead, Alcoa is shifting its focus to selling more finished products for use in building aircraft, autos and other goods. Its engineered-products division posted a record first quarter. Some of those products, like a new lightweight wheel for heavy-duty trucks, are designed to appeal to companies and consumers who are looking for lighter, fuel-efficient vehicles.

Alcoa predicts that demand for aluminum in aircraft will grow by 8 percent or 9 percent this year, with smaller increases for metal used in construction and cars. Overall global aluminum demand will grow 7 percent this year, about the same as last year, the company says.

New York-based Alcoa said Tuesday that the first-quarter loss was 16 cents per share and compared with net income of \$149 million, or 13 cents per share, in the same period last year.

The company said that excluding write-downs to reduce smelting and milling capacity, it would have earned 9 cents per share. Analysts surveyed by FactSet expected an adjusted profit of 5 cents per share. Revenue fell 6.5 percent to \$5.45 billion, below analysts' forecast of \$5.57 billion. □

## PVH Corp. invests in Lagerfeld parent company

**NEW YORK (AP)** — PVH Corp., the company behind the Calvin Klein and Tommy Hilfiger brands, has become a minority shareholder in fashion designer Karl Lagerfeld's namesake company. The financial terms of the deal were not disclosed. PVH said Tuesday that the investment in

Karl Lagerfeld B.V. will allow it to benefit from growth of the designer's brand. The deal includes giving PVH first dibs on licensing the brand for North America. Lagerfeld has primarily been focused in Europe and Asia. The company is trying to expand rapidly and says it has been

opening a new store every three weeks over the last six months. PVH, based in New York, is one of the world's largest apparel companies. In addition to owning the Calvin Klein and Tommy Hilfiger brands, it licenses products for brands such as Speedo, Kenneth Cole New York and Sean John.

Lagerfeld was part of the Tommy Hilfiger Group until PVH acquired it in 2010, when it was spun off to the Group's former shareholders. Other Lagerfeld investors include Apax Funds, the Chou Group, Mr. Tommy Hilfiger and Fred Gehring, CEO of Tommy Hilfiger. □



# Wal-Mart to expand wholesale outlets in India

**ANNE D'INNOCENZIO**

**AP Retail Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Wal-Mart Stores Inc. says it will open 50 more wholesale stores in India over the next four to five years, adding to the current total of 20 in the country.

These stores, known as cash-and-carry outlets, cater to retailers, rather than to individuals.

Wal-Mart also said Tuesday it plans to launch an online operation for cash-and-carry customers in India.

The world's largest retailer announced last October

that it was splitting from its Indian business partner Bharti Enterprises and said it couldn't go forward with plans for its own retail stores in India because strict government regulations on sourcing from local small businesses make it impossible. Wal-Mart's growth in India has also been hampered because of an internal bribery investigation that's making the discount-er evaluate its practices abroad.

"Wal-Mart is committed to India and we are excited about our growth plans,"

said Scott Price, president and CEO of Wal-Mart Asia, in a statement. "We will continue to focus on the cash-and-carry format as we are very happy with the way it has shaped up in the last few years."

Price said that Wal-Mart, based in Bentonville, Arkansas, is making a number of important steps to strengthen controls and is evaluating and reinforcing procedures related to all compliance areas including licensing and permits, food safety and responsible sourcing among others.

India has a potential market of 1.2 billion people. But no large foreign retailers have formally applied to open supermarkets and other multibrand stores in India since the government changed the law in 2012 to permit them to invest more in the sector previously reserved mostly for Indian companies. The new law allows international companies to open multibrand retail outlets with a 51 percent stake and an Indian minority partner. India allows foreign companies to run 100 percent-owned

wholesale chains.

Welcoming foreign retailers like Carrefour and Tesco was very controversial in India. Opponents argued it could hurt millions of small traders and family-run shops where most Indians now buy their products. To lessen the blow, the new law requires foreign retailers to source 30 percent of the products they sell from small and medium-sized Indian businesses.

Wal-Mart opened its first wholesale outlet store in India through the joint venture in 2009. □

# Samsung's profit falls as smartphones get cheaper

**YOUKYUNG LEE**

**AP Technology Writer**

**SEOUL, South Korea (AP)**

— Declining smartphone prices hit profit at Samsung Electronics Co. for a second straight quarter.

The consumer technology heavyweight said Tuesday that it expects operating income of about 8.4 trillion won (\$8 billion) for the January-March quarter, down 4 percent from a year earlier. Sales were flat at 53 trillion won. Samsung, the world's largest maker of smartphones, televisions and memory chips, will release full quarterly results later this month.

The operating profit was in line with the median estimate by analysts surveyed by FactSet. Compared with the previous quarter, sales sank 11 percent while operating income inched up 1 percent.

The year-on-year profit decline shows the challenge for Samsung to maintain earnings growth as smart-

phone prices fall. The devices are its biggest cash cow, accounting for more than two-third of its income.

The average price of a Samsung smartphone this year will likely be \$275, down 9 percent from

2013, according to Chung Chang-won, an analyst at Nomura Financial Investment.

That is because smartphone sales growth is slowing in North America, Europe, South Korea and Japan while consumers in developing nations tend to buy cheaper handsets.

Chinese handset makers are also vying for customers in emerging markets. Samsung faces competition from a slew of handset makers in regions such as Southeast Asia where Lenovo and Xiaomi are expanding. □



Visitors try out Samsung Electronics Co.'s Galaxy Note 3 at its showroom in Seoul, South Korea, Tuesday, April 1, 2014. Declining smartphone prices hit profit at Samsung for a second straight quarter. The consumer technology heavyweight said Tuesday that it expects operating income of about 8.4 trillion won (\$8 billion) for the January-March quarter, down 4 percent from a year earlier.

(AP Photo/Ahn Young-joon)

# Construction firms worried about worker shortage

**COLLEEN SLEVIN**

**Associated Press**

**DENVER (AP)**

— The U.S. construction industry says it's in danger of running short on workers to keep up with the demand for building projects, as employees age and more teens are pushed to go to college. To counter the effect, a top construction trade group kicked off an effort Tuesday to help bolster the employment ranks.

The plan by the Associated General Contractors of

America, which represents 30,000 companies, aims to draw more people into building trades by establishing charter schools focused on technical training, starting non-union apprenticeship programs and pushing for immigration reform.

The employment concern comes despite the fact that more than 2 million construction workers were laid off during the recession. The group believes many of the laid-off workers have since found work in other

fields or have retired.

Meanwhile, about 44 percent of the construction workforce is age 45 or older and nearly one of every five construction workers is 55 or older, according to U.S. Census Bureau statistics. On immigration reform, the group wants protections for immigrants already in the country and higher caps on the number foreign workers temporarily allowed into the country to work on construction projects. Unless there is action soon on

these fronts, the construction industry in Colorado and across the country will face worker shortages with increasing frequency," Ken Simonson, the association's chief economist, said over hammering and the whirring of a drill at Denver's Union Station.

"These shortages have the potential to undermine broader economic growth by needlessly delaying and inflating the cost of construction and development," he said. □

## Classifieds

**TIME SHARE FOR RENT/SALE**

**Aruba Beach Club**

May 10 to 17 wk 19, superior room 157, 575. or purchase \$2,300 and Casa del Mar one bdr wk 29, rm 1326, July 19 to 26. 675 Rent or buy \$2,500 e-mail: [rmwjmw@aol.com](mailto:rmwjmw@aol.com) or US 508 651 0016

201735

**Antiqueshop**

**ROCOCO PLAZA**

Tanki Leendert rd. 4A

OPEN : Mon – Frid NON-STOP

9 AM – 5 PM ph 7415640

Saturday 9am – 1pm

**SALE SALE SALE**

[www.antiquesaruba.com](http://www.antiquesaruba.com)

Fleamarket Sunday 4 May



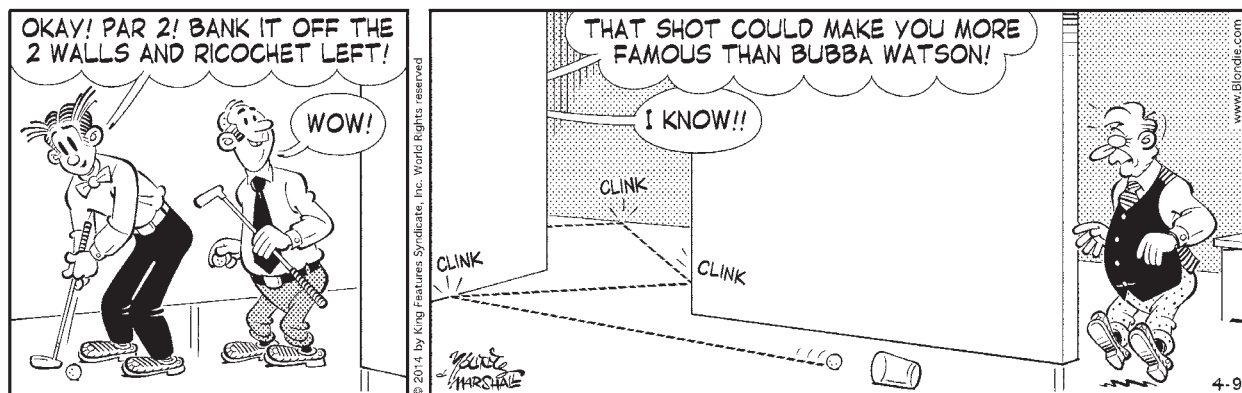
## Mutts



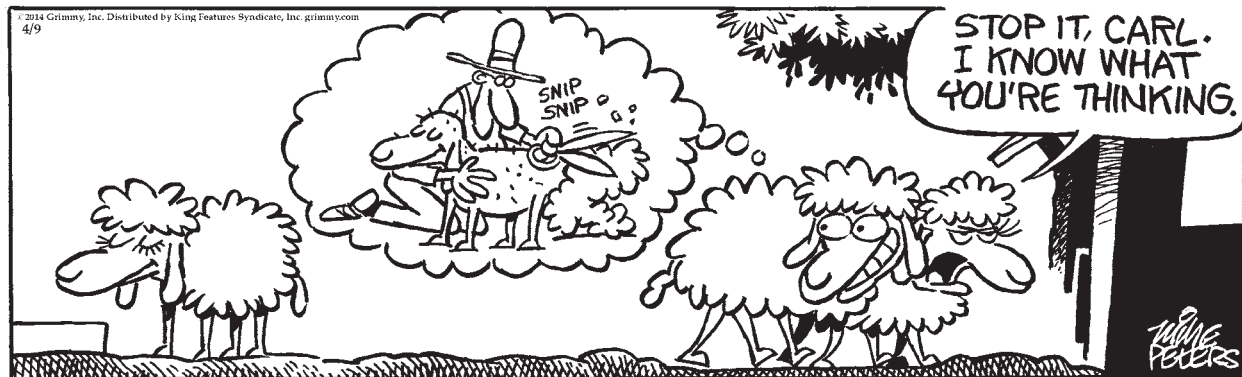
## 6 Chix



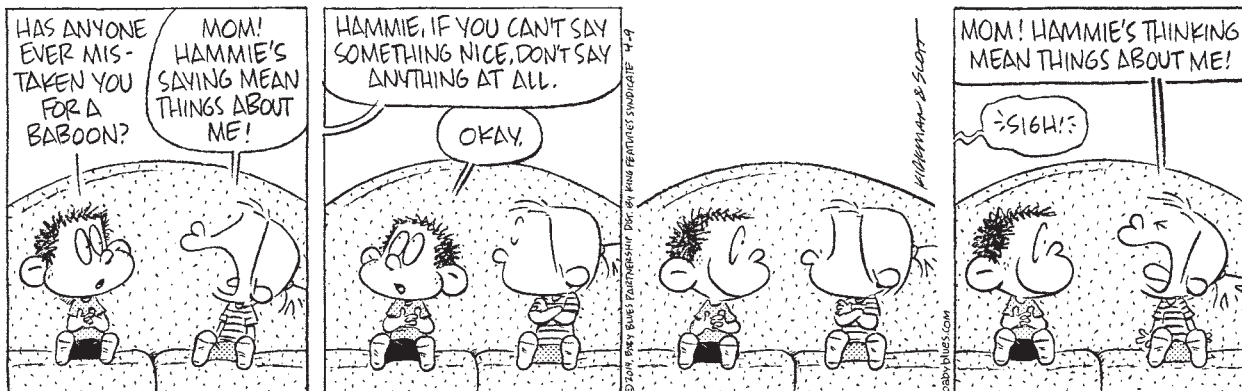
## Blondie



## Mother Goose & Grimm



## Baby Blues



## Zits



## Conceptis Sudoku

4	9						5	3
6		3					1	7
5			3	8	9			4
	6						8	
8			1		5			9
9								6
7			4	2	1			8
	4						2	
		8	6	7	3	9		

Difficulty Level ★★★

© 2014 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

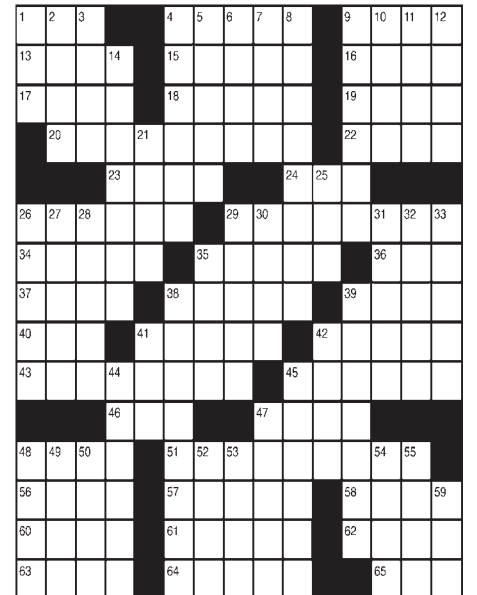
Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

3	8	1	5	7	9	6	4	2
6	2	7	8	3	4	1	9	5
5	4	9	2	1	6	7	3	8
8	3	4	7	6	5	9	2	1
1	7	2	4	9	8	3	5	6
9	6	5	3	2	1	4	8	7
7	5	8	1	4	3	2	6	9
2	9	3	6	5	7	8	1	4
4	1	6	9	8	2	5	7	3

## ACROSS

- Fellow
- Run \_\_; chase
- Bulk; weight
- Perched upon
- Vow taker
- Haywire
- Contact with a beeper
- To become stuck
- Look for
- Last day of October
- Acacia or alder
- "King of the Jungle"
- Foot digit
- Respect highly
- Ajax or Comet
- Small flies
- Large dangerous fish
- Greek "T"
- Cravings
- Cowboy shoes
- Gemini or Leo
- Nickname for Margaret
- Baggy
- \_\_ closet; place for sheets, towels, etc.
- Large brass instrument
- Longfellow's specialty
- Inquire
- Keep \_\_ on; watch closely
- Air pollution
- Smoker's item
- Agony
- Lessen
- Fine \_\_; music, painting, etc.
- Not working
- Very early bedtime
- Paper bag
- Home of twigs
- Put forth effort
- \_\_ Beta Kappa



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

4/9/14

## Tuesday's Puzzle Solved

SLUR	PHASE	ALPS
TIRE	RIDER	BOAT
ANNS	ODDER	YOGI
RESIDUE	MOBSTER	
	SAD	SERUM
EMPTY	OLD	YACHT
LIES	RWE	YELLOW
AKA	FREEZER	ARE
TERROR	PAST	TIDE
ESSAY	REP	TIMED
	METER	POD
CABARET	LIMITED	
ABED	AARON	ERGO
PLEA	SIEGE	SIGN
TESS	ENDED	TOSS

(c) 2014 Tribune Content Agency, LLC  
All Rights Reserved.

4/9/14

## DOWN

- Space
- Ogden's state
- Meditative exercise
- Like a flowering bush, poetically
- Sad expression
- Movement of the waves
- Border
- Goes in again
- Go quickly
- Water jug
- Unrestrained
- Small child
- Air rifle ammo
- Tells a fib
- Furniture wood
- Cairo's nation
- Contemptuous look
- "It takes two to \_\_"
- Selected
- Overdue
- Period spent in the military, e.g.
- Very willing
- \_\_ nose; cold symptom
- Before long
- Piece of furniture in a home library

- Naps
- Pounds: abbr.
- Part of the ear
- Substance that attracts metals
- Mom or dad
- Spud
- Whirl around
- Manufactured
- Lubricates
- Mountain goat
- \_\_ in; conceded
- Pitfall
- Engrave
- Zoom down snowy slopes



# Classifieds

## Red Hot Weeks Resales La Cabana BRC

1 Bedroom wk 13 room #342A 1  
Bedroom wk 14 room #340C  
(SATCheck in) \$8500 each.  
pool/ocean view Call: (297)  
562-0712  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

## Red Hot Weeks Resales Renaissance Suites

1 bdr wk 13 room #2521  
pool / ocean view \$9500  
Divi Village  
Studio wk 13 room 6107  
25 weeks remain on contract \$5K  
More info call: (297) 562-0712  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

## Red Hot Weeks Resales

we rent, sell and buy  
Free listings, free information,  
28 years experience.  
More info  
Call: (297) 562-0712  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

## FOR SALE

**weeks 9+10 Tropicana**  
renovated, beautiful 3 bedroom  
suite with ocean view, priced for  
quick sale \$19,000 or best offer  
for both weeks. Call 582-7000 x  
1507 until March 25th or 978-  
928-4440 after that.  
redsoxdonna@tiac.net

201570

## FOR SALE

**Condo in Gold Coast**  
Everything's included in this 2  
Br 2 ½ bath unit check it out  
now at [www.arubarental.info](http://www.arubarental.info)  
or call 562-0735 free pick up

201703

## TIME SHARE FOR SALE

**1 br Divi Links**  
1 br , sleeps 4, Blding E floating  
week May to Dec, \$1500  
for quick sale. Local 583-8000  
ext. 2022 until April 4th then  
ext 2010  
e-mail:  
bernieandsally@comcast.net

201595

## Red Hot Weeks Resales Marriott Ocean Club

2 bedroom, Platinum Ocean  
Front \$ right on the palm Beach  
\$30K Marriott Suft Club 2  
Bedroom Platinum Ocean View,  
right on the palm Beach \$16K 2  
Bedroom Platinum Garden view  
\$15K. More info call:  
(297)562-0712.  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

## Red Hot Weeks Resales Renaissance Suites

1 bedroom deluxe top floor  
corner unit ocean front wk 14  
and 15 \$20K both weeks  
More info call: (297) 562-0712  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

## Red Hot Weeks Resales Divi Phoenix

2 bedroom, 2 bath wk 13 room  
306 right on the Palm Beach in  
the Villas (with 22 weeks remain  
on contract + 9 can be  
accelerated) maintenance fee  
\$1238 Price: \$13.500.  
Call: (297) 562-0712  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

## Red Hot Weeks Resales Occidental Grand

Studio wk 2/17 Royal Grand \$10K  
1 bdr deluxe ocean view \$14K  
2 bdr ocean front \$30K  
3 bdr ocean front \$35K  
Optional all inclusive  
More info call: (297) 562-0712  
johnnypaesch@gmail.com

201728

## DOCTOR ON DUTY Oranjestad



Dr. van Ool

## EMERGENCIA 911



POLIS	100
POLIS	581-1100
ORANJESTAD	582-4000
NOORD	587-0009
STA. CRUZ	585-4710
SAVANETA	584-7000
SAN NICOLAS	584-5000
FIRE DEPT.	115
FIRE DEPT.	582-1108
POLIS TIPLINE	11141
HOSPITAL	527-4000
AMBULANCE	582-1234
SAN NICOLAS	
AMBULANCE	584-5050

## PHARMACY

O'STAD: Paradera Tel: 588-6638  
S. NICOLAS: Aloe Tel: 584-4606

INFORMATION	118
SETAR	582-2116
TAXI	582-5900
TAXI-TAS	587-5900
PROF. TAXI	588-0035
TAXI D.T.S.	587-2300
SERVICE ARUBA	583-3232

## CRUISESHIP

### Apr. 9 Vision of the Seas

Aruba Aiport	524-2424
American Airline	582-2700
Avianca	588-0059
Dutch Antilles	588-1900
Insel Air	588-9314
Jet Blue	588-2244
Spirit Airlines	582-7117
Tiara Air	588-4272
Venezolana	583-7674

## FOUNDATION FELLOWSHIP CLINIC

Tel: 584-6440  
Alcoholism & Drug Addiction,  
Anonymity guaranteed

## FUNDACION

Anti-Droga  
Aruba  
(FADA) Tel: 583-2999

## FUNDACION

Respetami  
Tel: 582-4433  
Diabetic Foundation  
Arubano  
Tel: 583-3808  
Narcotics Anonymous  
Tel: 583-8989

Foundation Amor  
pa Prohimo  
Tel: 583-3345 /586-6976

Women in Difficulties  
Foundation  
Tel: 583-5400

Bloodbank Aruba  
Tel: 587-0002

## FOR SALE



### Ruby 72

This spacious 4 bedroom  
property is located at  
the end of a cul-de-sac  
in North. It has enough  
space to build a pool or  
guest apartment. The  
garden is fully fenced-in  
and has nice a land-  
scaped yard. The built-up  
area is 217m²/ 2321 sq.ft.  
including the covered  
back porch, land size  
837m².

**US\$ 334.269,-**



Best & Solid Real Estate

Palm Beach 4-G  
Tel.: 586 4242  
[www.arubahouses.com](http://www.arubahouses.com)

Tel: 582-0697 / 583-7484

Schotland str. 70

Email: [quality@setarnet.aw](mailto:quality@setarnet.aw)

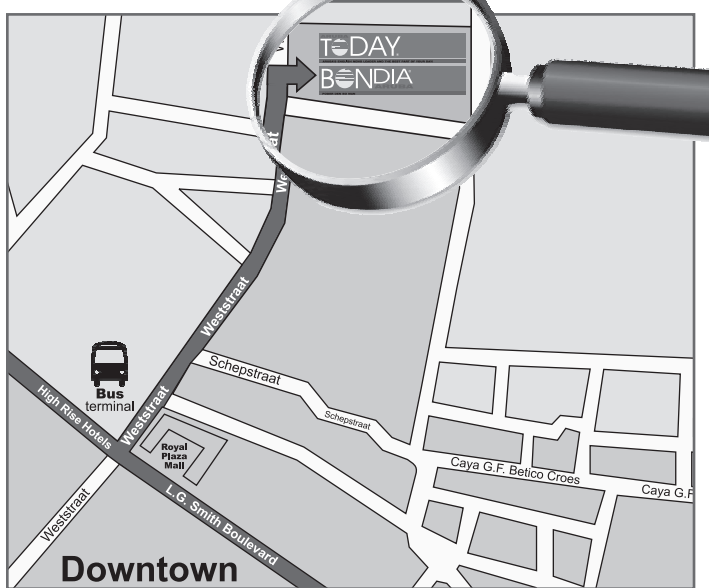
Website: [www.arubaqualityapartments.com](http://www.arubaqualityapartments.com)

**Extend your Stay at**  
**Quality Apartments**

\*Studio & Loft Apts.      \*Fully Furnished  
\*Kitchen / Airco / Cable TV      \*Swimming Pool  
Less than 1 mile from Eagle Beach & 4 large supermarkets.  
Feel free to contact or visit us.  
Mon - Fri: 8am-7pm. Sat & Sun: 9am-5pm.



## How to reach us!



### Marriott Aruba Surf Club

Platinum Season  
Oceanview \$16000  
Oceanside \$17500  
Oceanfront \$27500  
3 BEDRM \$27000  
Plat Plus Holiday 51  
OV -\$42k  
Plat Plus NY 52 OV- \$49k  
GOLD Season  
OS \$10k OV \$9500  
Oceanfront \$17k  
3 BEDRM OV \$17,000

### Marriott Aruba Ocean Club

Platinum 2B OV \$18k  
Oceanfront PLAT \$29k  
Platinum 1B OV \$11,500  
Gold season 2B OV \$9,000  
Oceanfront 2B \$14,500  
1B Oceanfront \$8,500

### La Cabana Beach & Racquet Club

\*\*Preferred Resale  
Company\*\*  
ALL summer & fall weeks  
starting at \$3k  
Studio, 1Bdrm & 2Bdrm  
available.  
Costa Linda & Playa Linda  
inventory  
Beach Villas at Divi  
Phoenix  
Divi Golf Villas

### We are the #1 Rental Timeshare agent for Aruba!

We also RENT Aruba  
weeks for owners.  
Contact us to BUY, SELL  
or RENT any timeshare  
property.

**888-888-2204 Ext 100-103**  
**321-206-6293 Ext 100- 103**  
**321-250-7164 Fax**

FaxWebsite:  
[www.concierge Realty.com](http://www.concierge Realty.com)



# Noses, made in Britain: UK touts lab-grown organs

**MARIA CHENG**

**AP Medical Writer**

**LONDON (AP)** — In a north London hospital, scientists are growing noses, ears and blood vessels in a bold attempt to make body parts in the laboratory. It's far from the only lab in the world that is pursuing the futuristic idea of growing organs for transplant. But the London work was showcased Tuesday as Mayor Boris Johnson announced a plan to attract more labs to do cutting-edge health and science research in the area.

While only a handful of patients have received the British lab-made organs so far— including tear ducts, blood vessels and windpipes — researchers hope they will soon be able to transplant more types of body parts into patients, including what would be the world's first nose made partly from stem cells.

"It's like making a cake," said Alexander Seifalian at University College London, the scientist leading the effort. "We just use a different kind of oven."

British authorities have invested nearly 4 million pounds (\$6.7 million) in the plan to stimulate research in the London-Oxford-Cambridge area. It aims to attract companies to the area to foster collaboration and promote research and manufacturing. A major center for biological research will open in London



**Professor Alexander Seifalian poses for photographs with a synthetic polymer nose at his research facility in the Royal Free Hospital in London, Monday, March 31, 2014.**

**Associated Press**

next year.

University College London is a partner in the campaign. During a recent visit to his lab there, Seifalian showed off a sophisticated machine used to make molds from a polymer material for various organs.

Last year, he and his team used that material to mold a nose for a British man who lost his to cancer. Then they added a salt and sugar solution to the mold to mimic the somewhat sponge-like texture of a natural nose. Stem cells were taken from the patient's fat and grown in the lab for two weeks before being used to cover the nose scaffold. Later, the nose was implanted into the man's forearm so that skin would grow to cover it.

Seifalian said he and his team are waiting for approval from regulatory authorities to transfer the nose onto the patient's face but couldn't say when that might happen.

The polymer material Seifalian uses for his organ scaffolds has been patented and he's also applied for patents for their blood vessels, tear ducts and windpipes. He and his team are creating other organs including coronary arteries and ears. Later this year, a trial is scheduled to start in India and London to test lab-made ears for people born without them. "Ears are harder to make than noses because you have to get all the contours right and the skin is pulled tight so you see its entire structure," said Dr. Michelle Griffin, a plastic surgeon who has made dozens of ears and noses in Seifalian's lab.

"At the moment, children who need new ears have to go through a really invasive procedure involving

taking cartilage from their ribs," Griffin said. She added they plan to eventually create an entirely synthetic face but must first prove their polymer scaffolds won't accidentally burst out of the skin.

"Scientists have to get things like noses and ears right before we can move onto something like a kidney, lungs or a liver, which is much more complicated," said Eileen Gentleman, a stem cell expert at King's College London, who is not involved in Seifalian's research.

"What (Seifalian) has created is the correct structure and the fact that it's good enough for his patients to have a functional (windpipe), tear duct, etc. is pretty amazing," she said. Some scientists predicted certain lab-made organs will soon cease to be experimental.

"I'm convinced engineered organs are going to be on the market soon," said Suchitra Sumitran-Holgersson, a professor of transplantation biology at the University of Gothenburg in Sweden. She has transferred lab-made blood vessels into a handful of patients and plans to offer them more widely by 2016, pending regulatory approval.

Seifalian hopes lab-made organs will one day be available for a few hundred dollars.

"If people are not that fussy, we could manufacture different sizes of noses so the surgeon could choose a size and tailor it for patients before implanting it," he said. "People think your nose is very individual and personal but this is something that we could mass produce like in a factory one day." □

## Americas get front-row seat for lunar eclipse

**MARCIA DUNN**

**AP Aerospace Writer**

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP)** -- North and South America, get ready for the first eclipse of the year.

Next Tuesday morning, the moon will be eclipsed by Earth's shadow.

This total lunar eclipse will be visible across the Western Hemisphere. The total phase will last 78 minutes, beginning at 3:06 a.m. EDT and ending at 4:24 a.m. EDT.

The moon will be rising in the western Pacific, and so only the last half of the eclipse will be visible there. In much of Europe and Africa, the moon will be

setting, so there won't be much, if anything, to see.

On April 29, the Southern Hemisphere will be treated to a rare type of solar eclipse.

In all, four eclipses will occur this year, two lunar and two solar.

Tuesday's lunar eclipse may damage a NASA spacecraft that's been circling the moon since fall. But no worries: it's near the end of its mission.

The robotic orbiter LADEE (LA'-dee) was never designed to endure a lengthy eclipse. Scientists don't know if it will withstand the prolonged cold of the hours-long eclipse. □

***La Vida Loca***  
**Call Now**  
**741-8861**  
*Where dreams come true*  
 Massage & Escort services  
**BEAUTIFUL**  
**LATIN**  
**WOMEN**  
*for adults*  
 Sweet and Sensual  
 Service 24/7

**Honey Dolls 24/7**  
 Massage and escort service  
**Beautiful Latin Girls**  
 Pick-up & Delivery  
 Serving Men - Couple - Women - All Genders  
**Red Light Tour**  
 Bachelor Party Specialized, the best in the Caribbean  
**Call: 565-9535**



# New bio explores the genius of John Updike

ANN LEVIN  
Associated Press

During his lifetime, John Updike was acclaimed as one of the greatest writers of his generation, the poet laureate of middle-class, small-town, Protestant America.

From the time he was a boy, submitting articles and drawings to school newspapers in his beloved hometown of Shillington, Pa., until his 2009 death at age 76, he produced an endless stream of short stories, novels, essays, poetry and criticism — more than 60 books in just over 50 years.

Now, after five years at work in the Updike archives, Adam Begley has written an indispensable guide to the man and his work.

As Updike himself often acknowledged, his life was the basis for his fiction, and Begley carefully, decade by decade, documents the similarities, identifying in short stories from the late 1950s, for instance, the first glimmerings of adulterous feelings that Updike would famously explore in 1968's "Couples."

"The more Updike one reads, and the more one learns about his life, the more blatantly obvious it becomes that he was enthralled by the detail of his own experience," Begley writes.

Yet Updike's fiction was not merely "the prose equivalent to a live webcam," he adds. "He selected, he edited ... sharpening the blur of daily life so that meanings began to emerge."

Updike called it his "relentless domestic realism," and it reached its apogee in the four Rabbit novels about everyman Harry "Rabbit" Angstrom, each one set in a different decade against the backdrop of a changing America, from the 1950s through the '80s.

Begley, whose father, the novelist Louis Begley, was



This image released by Harper shows the cover of "Updike," by Adam Begley.  
Associated Press

a classmate of Updike's at Harvard, is particularly well-suited for the job of Updike biographer. In the introduction, he recounts a family anecdote about the time that Updike visited his parents not long after he was born, saw the toddler in his baby chair, and showed off his lesser-known skills as a juggler. Young Adam laughed. □

# 'Sharknado 2' unleashes flying sharks on New York

BETH HARRIS  
Associated Press  
PASADENA, California (AP)

— Get ready for more flying sharks.

"Sharknado 2: The Second One" will take a bite out of New York City on July 30 in Syfy's sequel to the campy classic that aired last summer.

Ian Ziering and Tara Reid return from the original film that attracted nearly 1.37 million viewers. They're joined by Vivica A. Fox and Mark McGrath, along with Kelly Osbourne, Judah Friedlander ("30 Rock"), Andy Dick, Judd Hirsch and Perez Hilton. Matt Lauer and Al Roker of "Today" and Robert Klein make cameo appearances.

This time the mayhem moves from Los Angeles to the East Coast, where a freak weather system unleashes sharks on the populace and famous sites like Citi Field, home of the New York Mets.

"It's a whole different story, not just sharks ripping through flesh," co-star Kari Wuhrer said Tuesday at NBC's summer TV presentation. "New York is a



This photo released by Syfy shows Ian Ziering, left, as Fin, Tara Reid as April in a scene from the Syfy original movie, "Sharknado."  
Associated Press

character in the movie, the weather is a character in the movie."

Friedlander was a fan of the original movie and approached the network directly to land a role in the sequel.

"This to me is the most important film ever made about climate change," he said jokingly, noting that it features "some of the top shark actors in the world."

The original film was a trending topic on Twitter, generating nearly 5,000 tweets per minute at its peak.

"It's unpretentious, it's fun and you can turn it on at any point and instantly be entertained," Friedlander said. "It's very communal even though people aren't watching at a theater."

The film was shot over the same 18-day schedule as the original, with a slightly larger budget. It features more than 500 visual effects shots.

"We're trying to perfect the tornado on this one even more because we're trying to make it a character," director Anthony Ferrante said. □

# Tax proposal to help live theater brings out stars

MARK KENNEDY  
AP Drama Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Live commercial theater from Broadway to Los Angeles would get a huge financial boost under a change in the federal tax code that's being championed by such actors as Neil Patrick Harris, Bryan Cranston and Tyne Daly.

U.S. Sen. Charles Schumer's proposal would allow 100 percent of any live theater investment to be deducted up to \$15 million per production, whether the eventual show is a hit or a flop, a benefit that is currently being granted to film and TV projects.

"Investing in Broadway and live theater is often a big risk. It's difficult to get banks and financial institutions to back up these produc-



This Jan. 19, 2012 file photo shows a Broadway street sign in New York's Times Square.  
Associated Press

tions," Schumer said. His amendment, he added, "will put Broadway and live theater on the same footing as TV and film."

Schumer said the change would create "thousands and thousands" more jobs for actors and backstage

workers, and produce more shows nationwide, giving a shot in the arm to the hotel, restaurant and taxi industries. He noted that other countries also grant live theater similar breaks.

The change was added to a tax bill that recently

passed the Senate Finance Committee and Schumer expects it to be voted on by the full Senate within a month and a half. The House could vote on it as early as this summer, he said. The New York senator was joined at a Monday news conference by Harris, Cranston, Daly and producer Harvey Weinstein, as well as cast members from "The Phantom of the Opera," "Newsies" and "Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella." Cranston, the "Breaking Bad" star currently playing President Lyndon B. Johnson in the play "All the Way," said the tax change would enable theater producers to take more chances on "storytelling that may be on the fringe but just may be incredibly important." □



# Mamma Mia: ABBA mark 40 years since breakthrough

JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press

**LONDON (AP)** — Four decades on from the flares, fame and fabulousness, the members of ABBA say they have no regrets — not even about the clothes. Members of the Swedish supergroup marked 40 years since their international breakthrough hit “Waterloo” on Monday with a party for hundreds of guests at London’s Tate Modern gallery.

Bjorn Ulvaeus said he felt “extremely proud and humbled” by decades of success that includes hit records, the stage and movie musical “Mamma Mia” and a Stockholm museum dedicated to the band. And Frida Lyngstad said she was proud of ABBA’s ultra-70s look of big boots and spangly jumpsuits, documented in a new photo book about the band.



Swedish singer’s Bjorn Ulvaeus, left, and Anni-Frid Lyngstad, of the pop group ABBA, pose on the red carpet ahead of the band’s International anniversary party at the Tate Modern in central London, Monday, April 7, 2014.

Associated Press

“It was our youth, it was our time, and we decided how we wanted to dress ourselves onstage,” said Lyngstad. “And it was fun.” She said some performers “are even more courageous nowadays, if you

think of Lady Gaga, for example.” Lyngstad said she could not explain the global success of ABBA, which rocketed when the band won the 1974 Eurovision Song Contest with “Waterloo.” The quartet’s blend of poppy melodies, lush harmonies and slick arrangements helped them sell more than 400 million records around the world. “We never had a formula,” Lyngstad said. “We just did what we loved the most. And the great thing was maybe that the four of us met and started to work

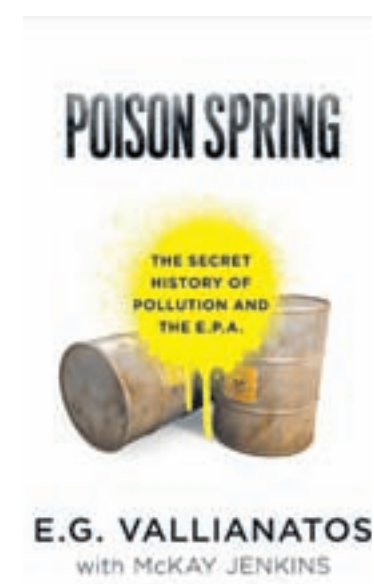
together the way we did. Two great songwriters, Bjorn and Benny, together with Agnetha’s and my voices.” The foursome eventually fractured, with the band’s two married couples — Lyngstad and Benny Andersson, Ulvaeus and Agnetha Faltskog — divorcing. But Ulvaeus said the four of them recently met up, and “the chemistry is still there.” “We bonded instantly,” he said. So are they tempted to make fans’ wishes come true with an ABBA reunion? Lyngstad laughed. “No,” she said. □

## ‘Poison Spring’ details dirty EPA history

JENNIFER KAY

Associated Press

E.G. Vallianatos’ complaints about the heavy influence that large corporations wield over the U.S. government and environmental policy won’t be news to anyone who follows the debates over genetically modified crops or the ingredients in popular cosmetics. What is surprising and depressing in “Poison Spring,” however, is when that influence began, especially over the regulation of pesticides. According to Vallianatos, even at the dawn of the Environmental Protection Agency, when Republicans and Democrats alike claimed to be green champions, corporations were working within the agency to undermine public health and safety and protect themselves, not the planet. Vallianatos worked at the EPA for 25 years, starting in 1979. With journalist McKay Jenkins, he chronicles his frustrations and that of some of his colleagues over thwarted attempts to regulate and inform the public about pesticides and other chemicals used on farms and in homes. Vallianatos’ outrage some-



This image released by Bloomsbury Press shows the cover of “Poison Spring: The Secret History of Pollution and the E.P.A.,” by E.G. Vallianatos with McKay Jenkins. Associated Press

times gets bogged down in scientific jargon, but he makes a solid, damning case against putting political appointees in charge of a regulatory agency, as well as corporate claims about product safety. “Poison Spring” is Vallianatos’ call to arms, urging American consumers to hold their government accountable for policies that protect and reward polluters. □

## Cellist Yo-Yo Ma to receive 1st Fred Rogers award

LATROBE, Pennsylvania (AP)

— Cellist Yo-Yo Ma will receive the first Fred Rogers Legacy Award, which is named for the creator and late host of the television show “Mister Rogers’ Neighborhood.”

Ma became friends with Rogers after twice being a guest on Rogers’ Public Broadcasting Service show, and Rogers’ widow, Joanne, a concert pianist, chose Ma for the inaugural award.

The award will celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Fred Rogers Center for Early Learning and Children’s Media. It was established after Rogers died of stomach cancer in 2003 at age 74.

Karen Strubel Myers, the center’s director of development, said the award recognizes meritorious and charitable work. It will not necessarily be awarded annually.

Ma is being honored for work including his Silk Road



In this March 19, 2012 file photo, world-famous cellist Yo-Yo Ma plays in the rotunda of the State of Illinois building, the James R. Thompson Center, in Chicago.

Associated Press

Project, which promotes cultural and artistic studies linked to the Asian trade route of the same name. Ma, a 15-time Grammy

winner and recipient of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, will give a recital after accepting the award May 23. □



# Sheldon: Iran's Best Friend



Thomas L. Friedman  
© 2014 New York Times News Service

It occurred to me the other day that the zealously pro-Israel billionaire Sheldon Adelson and Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, actually have one big thing in common. They are both trying to destroy Israel. Adelson is doing it by loving Israel to death and Khamenei by hating Israel to death. And now even Gov. Chris Christie of New Jersey inadvertently got drawn into this craziness.

What's the logic? Very simple. Iran's leaders want Israel destroyed but have no desire, in my view, to use a nuclear bomb to do it. That would expose them to retaliation and sure death. Their real strategy is more subtle: Do everything possible to ensure that Israel remains in the "occupied territory," as the U.S. State Department refers to the West Bank, won by Israel in the 1967 war.

By supporting Palestinian militants dedicated to destroying any peace process, Tehran hopes to keep Israel permanently mired in the West Bank and occupying 2.7 million Palestinians, denying them any statehood and preventing the emergence of a Palestinian state that might recognize Israel and live in peace alongside it. The more Israel is stuck there, the more Palestinians and the world will demand a "one-state solution," with Palestinians given the right to vote. The more Israel resists that, the more isolated it becomes. Iran and its ally Hamas have plenty of evidence that this strategy is working: Israel's 47-year-old occupation of the West Bank has led it to build more settlements there and in doing so make itself look like the most active colonial power on the planet today. The 350,000 Israeli settlers in the West Bank reinforce that view by claiming their presence in the West Bank is not about security but a divinely inspired project to reunite the Jewish people with their biblical homeland.

The result is a growing movement on college campuses and in international organizations to isolate and delegitimize the Jewish state because of this occupation. This "BDS movement" - to boycott, divest from and sanction Israel - is gaining adherents not only among non-Jews on U.S. campuses but even within some Hillels, campus Jewish centers. Iran could not be happier. The more Israel sinks into the West Bank, the more it is delegitimized and isolated, the more the world focuses on Israel's colonialism rather than Iran's nuclear enrichment, the more people call for a single democratic state in all of

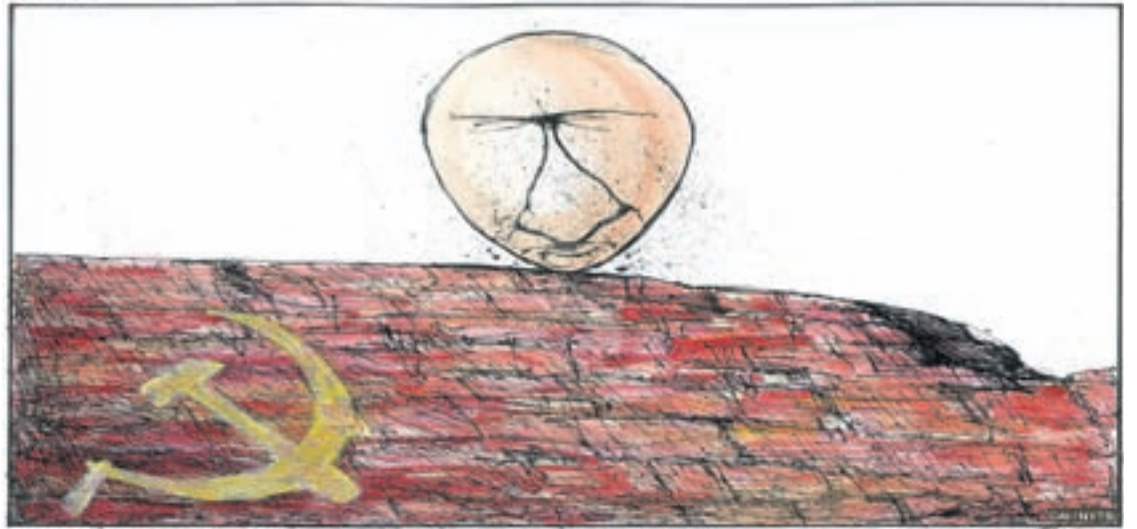
historic Palestine.

And now Iran has an ally: Sheldon Adelson - the foolhardy Las Vegas casino magnate and crude right-wing, pro-Israel extremist. Adelson gave away some \$100 million in the last presidential campaign to fund Republican candidates, with several priorities in mind: that they delegitimize the Palestinians and that they avoid any reference to the West Bank as "occupied territories" and any notion that the U.S. should pressure Israel to trade land for peace there. Both Newt Gingrich and Mitt Romney took the money and played by Sheldon's rules. In case you missed it, the RJC, the Republican Jewish Coalition, held a retreat last weekend at an Adelson casino in Las Vegas. It was dubbed "the Sheldon Primary." Republicans lined up to compete for Adelson's blessing and money, or as Politico put it: "Adelson summoned (Jeb) Bush and Govs. Chris Christie of New Jersey, John Kasich of Ohio and Scott Walker of Wisconsin to Las Vegas. ... The new big-money political landscape - in which a handful of donors can dramatically alter a campaign with just a check or two - explains both the eagerness of busy governors to make pilgrimages to Las Vegas, and the obsession with divining Adelson's 2016 leanings."

Adelson personifies everything that is poisoning our democracy and Israel's today - swaggering oligarchs, using huge sums of money to try to bend each system to their will. Christie, in his speech, referred to the West Bank as "occupied territories" - as any knowledgeable U.S. leader would. This, Politico said, "set off murmurs in the crowd." Some Republican Jews explained to Christie after he finished that he had made a terrible faux pas. (He called something by its true name and in the way the U.S. government always has!) The West Bank should be called "disputed territories" or "Judea and Samaria," the way hard-line Jews prefer. So, Politico reported, Christie hastily arranged a meeting with Adelson to explain that he misspoke and that he was a true friend of Israel. "The New Jersey governor apologized in a private meeting in the casino mogul's Venetian office shortly afterward," Politico reported. It said Adelson "accepted" Christie's "explanation" and "quick apology."

Read that sentence over and contemplate it.

I don't know if Israel has a Palestinian partner for a secure withdrawal from the West Bank, or ever will. But I know this: If Israel wants to remain a Jewish, democratic state, it should be doing everything it can to nurture such a partner or acting unilaterally to get out. Because I'm certain that when reports about the "Adelson primary" reached the desk of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei in Tehran, a big smile crossed his face and he said to his aides: "May Allah grant Sheldon a long life. Everything is going according to plan." □



# The New Gay Orthodoxy



Frank Bruni  
© 2014 New York Times News Service

To appreciate how rapidly the ground has shifted, go back just two short years, to April 2012. President Barack Obama didn't support marriage equality, not formally. Neither did Hillary Clinton. And few people were denouncing them as bigots whose positions rendered them too divisive, offensive and regressive to lead. But that's precisely the condemnation that tainted and toppled Brendan Eich after his appointment two weeks ago as the new chief executive of the technology company Mozilla. On Thursday he resigned, clearly under duress and solely because his opposition to gay marriage diverged from the views of too many employees and customers. "Under the present circumstances, I cannot be an effective leader," he said, and he was right, not just about the climate at Mozilla but also, to a certain degree, about the climate of America.

Something remarkable has happened - something that's mostly exciting but also a little disturbing (I'll get to the disturbing part later), and that's reflected not just in Eich's ouster at Mozilla, the maker of the web browser Firefox, but in a string of marriage-equality victories in federal courts over recent months, including a statement Friday by a judge who said that he would rule that Ohio must recognize same-sex marriages performed outside the state. And the development I'm referring to isn't the broadening support for same-sex marriage, which a clear majority of Americans now favor. No, I'm referring to the fact that in a great many circles, endorsement of same-sex marriage has rather suddenly become nonnegotiable. Expected. Assumed. Proof of a baseline level of enlightenment and humanity. Akin to the understanding that all people, regardless of race or color, warrant the same rights and respect.

Even beyond these circles, the debate is essentially over, in the

sense that the trajectory is immutable and the conclusion foregone. Everybody knows it, even the people who still try to stand in the way. The legalization of same-sex marriage from north to south and coast to coast is merely a matter of time, probably not much of it at that.

There will surely be setbacks, hold-outs, tantrums like the one in Arizona, whose Legislature in February passed a bill that would have allowed discrimination against gays and lesbians on religious grounds. (Mississippi enacted a vaguely similar measure last week.) Arizona's governor of course vetoed the legislation, after being pressured by corporate leaders, and their lobbying underscored the larger and more lasting story. At least beyond the offices of Chick-fil-A, it's widely believed - no, understood - that being pro-gay is better for business than being anti-gay. Hence the inclusion of a same-sex couple in the famous faces-of-America commercial that Coca-Cola unveiled during the Super Bowl. Hence a more recent television spot, part of the Honey Maid food company's "This is Wholesome" ad campaign. It showed two dads cuddling their newborn.

The Mozilla story fits into this picture. Eich was exiled following not just employee complaints but signs and threats of customer unrest: The online dating site OkCupid was urging its users to boycott Firefox.

The business community has in fact been a consequential supporter of marriage equality. Wall Street firms lined the coffers of the campaign for marriage equality in New York, and 20 major financial service companies pay substantial membership dues to belong to and underwrite Out on the Street, an industry group that advocates LGBT equality.

"You want to talk about a sea change?" Todd Sears, the group's founder, said to me. "Fourteen financial services companies signed onto an amicus brief in the Edie Windsor case." That was the one that asked the Supreme Court to strike down the Defense of Marriage Act, which the court essentially did last June.

The language in the high court's ruling "demolished every argument put forward to justify marriage discrimination," said Evan Wolfson, the founder and president of the advocacy group Freedom to Marry. And that ruling, he added, helped to pave the way for all the court victories - in Utah, in Oklahoma, in Texas - since. This coming Thursday, the U.S. circuit court in Denver will hear an appeal of the decision by a federal judge in Utah to allow gay and lesbian couples there to wed. The case could have a sweeping effect on a region of the country not typically considered progressive. It could also wind up at the

Supreme Court and give the justices a chance to do what they stopped short of last year: decree marriage equality nationwide.

Wolfson noted a fascinating angle of the recent court rulings and of the blessing that Eric Holder gave in February to state-level attorneys general who didn't want to defend bans on gay marriage. Both invoked racial discrimination in the country's past, casting bans on same-sex marriage in that context.

Increasingly, opposition to gay marriage is being equated with racism - as indefensible, un-American. "What was once a wedge issue became wrapped in the American flag," said Jo Becker, a New York Times writer whose sweeping history of the marriage-equality movement, "Forcing the Spring," will be published this month. Becker mentioned what she called a rebranding of the movement over the last five years, with two important components. First, gay marriage was framed in terms of family values. Second, advocates didn't shame opponents and instead made sympathetic public acknowledgment of the journey that many Americans needed to complete in order to be comfortable with marriage equality.

There was no such acknowledgment from Mozilla employees and others who took to Twitter to condemn Eich and call for his head. Writing about that wrath in his blog, The Dish, Andrew Sullivan said that it disgusted him, "as it should disgust anyone interested in a tolerant and diverse society." A leading supporter of gay marriage, Sullivan warned other supporters not to practice "a fanaticism more like the religious right than anyone else."

I can't get quite as worked up as he did. For one thing, prominent gay rights groups weren't part of the Mozilla fray. For another, Mozilla isn't the first company to make leadership decisions (or reconsiderations) with an eye toward the boss' cultural mind-meld with the people below him or her. And if you believe that to deny a class of people the right to marry is to deem them less worthy, it's indeed difficult to chalk up opposition to marriage equality as just another difference of opinion. But it's vital to remember how very recently so many of equality's promoters, like Obama and Clinton, have come around and how relatively new this conversation remains. It's crucial not to lose sight of how well the movement has been served by the less judgmental posture that Becker pointed out.

Sullivan is right to raise concerns about the public flogging of someone like Eich. Such vilification won't accelerate the timetable of victory, which is certain. And it doesn't reflect well on the victors. □



# Universal Studios Hollywood Aims to Catch Up to Disney

**BROOKS BARNES**

© 2014 New York Times

**UNIVERSAL CITY, Calif.** - Now Comcast is mouse hunting on both coasts.

After pouring money into its Universal Resort in Orlando, Fla., Comcast is increasing spending at Universal Studios Hollywood, unveiling a smattering of new attractions on Tuesday that - when combined with previously announced sections devoted to Harry Potter and "Despicable Me" - will leave 70 percent of the California park remade by 2016.

The enhancements, part of a \$1.6 billion overhaul of the park and adjacent movie studio, are designed to keep Universal's thrill-ride fans coming back but also to attract families with young children, a lucrative audience that Universal until recently left almost entirely to nearby Disneyland.

"We're trying to significantly broaden our base," said Larry Kurzweil, president of Universal Studios Hollywood, which drew roughly 6 million visitors last year. "This isn't about adding rides. It's about a complete transformation."

He may not be exaggerating. When Universal Orlando opened the Wizarding World of Harry Potter four years ago, that resort went from an also-ran to a must-visit almost overnight. Year-on-year attendance shot up 30 percent as families swarmed the snow-capped shops of Hogsmeade and rode three Potter-themed rides. To prepare for a similar surge here - a Wizarding World will open at this hill-top park in 2016 - Comcast's NBCUniversal is adding thousands of parking spaces, spending about \$100 million to improve transit and planning two 500-room hotels. But those efforts are crumbs compared to what is planned inside the gates.

On Saturday a "Despicable Me" attraction called Minion Mayhem will begin transforming riders into furry yellow Minions and taking them on a topsy-turvy excursion. Also opening is

a water-themed play area called Super Silly Fun Land, a version of the seaside carnival from "Despicable Me."

"That is our first real kiddie ride," Kurzweil said during a pre-opening tour, pointing to a contraption called Silly Swirly, a new brightly colored offering similar to Disney's flying Dumbo attraction, except with exotic bugs instead of elephants. "I rode it earlier myself," he added with a smile.

The park, which will soon celebrate its 50th anniversary, said that it would also expand its "Simpsons" ride to include an entire themed village. The area, similar to one at Universal Orlando but more expansive, will add about a dozen restaurants and shops to the center of the park and open next year.

Also coming next year, the company said Tuesday, will be "Fast & Furious - Supercharged," a movie-thrill ride hybrid in which occupants of Universal's famed back-lot trams will be encircled by 400-foot-long movie screens. "We're going to make it feel like those trams are being pulled through the streets at speeds of over 100 miles per hour," said Chick Russell, an executive producer for Universal Creative. Universal's tram tours, which currently end at sunset, will be expanded into the evening hours. There are plans for a new nighttime story line, which will be accompanied by lighting effects at more than 20 stops.

To some degree, the re-making of Universal Studios Hollywood is less about stealing market share from Disney than catching up after years of semi-neglect. Universal's California outpost has occasionally added new attractions, including a "Transformers" ride in 2012 and a "King Kong" experience in 2010. But Universal's various recent owners - General Electric, Vivendi, Seagram - were all more interested in wringing cash from the theme parks than putting any in.



**A new ride, Despicable Me Minion Mayhem, in the new Super Silly Fun Land at Universal Studios Hollywood, Universal City, Calif., April 3, 2014. The new attraction is part of a \$1.6 billion overhaul of the park and adjacent movie studio designed to keep Universal's thrill-ride fans coming back, but also to begin attracting attract families with young children. (Emily Berl/The New York Times)**

In contrast, the Walt Disney Co. was investing heavily in its two-park Disneyland Resort 35 miles to the south in Anaheim, Calif. Disney recently spent \$1 billion to expand its California Adventure park there, for instance.

Comcast has discovered - to its surprise - that theme parks represent one of the few areas of stable entertainment industry growth outside of cable television. Universal parks had operating income of about \$1 billion last year, up 5.3 percent from a year earlier, according to financial filings. Revenue increased 7.2 percent.

Now Comcast, which bought control of NBCUniversal in 2011, also wants to

grow by going after families, which have long been Disney's bread and butter. "Our guests at this park used to start at about 11 years old and go up from there," said Ron Meyer, vice chairman of NBCUniversal. "That's no longer the case. We now have something for everybody, even very young children, with much more on the way." Disney, which declined to comment for this article, has repeatedly dismissed the threat of greater competition from Universal in Florida, arguing that a rising tide lifts all boats. (Most analysts agree with that theory.) Robert A. Iger, Disney's chief executive, has also questioned Comcast's zeal for theme parks

over the long term.

"I think the jury is still out to see just how much they're willing to invest and what kind of creativity they have to invest in," Iger said on a November call with analysts in response to a question about competition from Comcast.

Stephen B. Burke, a Comcast executive vice president and chief executive of the NBCUniversal unit, declined an interview request. In an emailed statement, he said in part, "Going forward, we plan to keep investing."

Burke, who spent over a decade at Disney, working for a time as a senior parks manager, added, "Our parks are well-run and firing on all cylinders." □



**From left: Arianna, 8, Rosie, 7, and Brianna Serrato, 10, pose with the "Despicable Me" movie character Gru in the new Super Silly Fun Land at Universal Studios Hollywood, Universal City, Calif., April 3, 2014. (Emily Berl/The New York Times)**